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CUMULATIVE INDEX

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This is a selective index so, although there are many items of interest and information in some of the regular features of the Magazine, the following have been omitted; President's Messages, Convention Program, Convention Show Schedules and Awards Offered, Registration Report, Boyce Edens and Booster Fund Reports, Affiliate 'Appenings, Financial Statements, In Memoriams, and Strictly Business.

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SB
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Bot.

African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 30 Number 1 January, 1977

PART I OF II PARTS



Early Bird Specials

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'Sierra Rose', pictured on the Cover Page, is one of the many beautiful African violets hybridized by Granger Gardens of Medina, OH. (Photo by Mildred Schroeder)

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Letter From The AVSA President



HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYBODY!

It's that time again when we turn to a fresh page in the book on which our hopes, our prayers, our successes and our failures will be recorded for the Year 1977. Undoubtedly, there will be some of all by year's end, but the important part is to keep on trying to do all we can to make that little corner of the universe we call our own a better and brighter place to live. When you get right down to it, isn't that what it's all about?

Whatever else may be floundering, AVSA is alive and well — all 21,170 of us! Isn't that great? You must be doing a good job in spreading the word about AVSA membership, because letters keep coming in asking for information about our society. How easy to tell them AVSA membership means communion and fellowship with all these thousands of like-minded African violet lovers. It means receiving five issues yearly of AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE, which has just been increased to 80 pages of valuable information, including eight pages in glorious color. It means help is available on culture problems by writing any of the regular magazine columnists — and I could go on and on.

When January is here, can April be far behind? April means convention and we, in St. Louis, are working like beavers to be ready to receive you the week of April 25. The convention coupons are in this issue and you'd better read them carefully, because something new has been added to the registration coupon this year. There's an "Early-Bird Registration" and if you delay registering beyond the cut-off date, it's going to cost you an additional amount. So you'd better clip the coupon and take care of that detail right now!

We hope many of you will join us on the tours. Did you read the Publicity Chairman's article about them as yet? Don't they sound exciting? Then we hope the dinner speakers will entertain you and the workshops prove helpful and informative. So, y'all come!

I'm sure that some of our new members, who might not have known that I live in St. Louis, are well aware of the fact by now - - judging from the sales pitch I'm giving you to come to St. Louis in April.

I'll be seein' you!

Melva

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Rose Dust



Pink Fashion

Send checks or Money Order to:

Portraits of Violets

P.O. Box 26151

New Orleans, La. 70126

- ☐ Rebecca
- ☐ Like Wow Sport
- ☐ Rose Dust
- ☐ Pink Fashion
- ☐ Set of all Four

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

(Please allow 4-6 weeks delivery)

POSTPAID SUPPLIES

Sudbury Soil Improvement Kit	\$8.29
Sudbury PH Soil Test Kit	1.98
Humiguide Hygrometer	4.50

INSECTICIDES AND CONDITIONERS

Acti-dionne PM	5 ounces	\$1.90
Rock Phosphate	2 pounds	1.75
Dokomite Limestone	2 pounds	1.75

PLASTIC POTS

"White or Utility. All Postpaid. Please specify type. If not specified our choice will be sent."

	25	50	100
1 1/4" Regular	\$ 1.85	\$ 2.85	\$ 4.90
2 1/4" Regular or Square	1.95	2.95	5.15
2 1/2" Regular or Square	2.25	3.85	6.20
3" Reg. or Square, or Tub	2.55	4.60	7.75
3 1/2" Regular or Tub	2.95	5.15	9.04
4" Regular or Tub	3.25	5.90	10.35
5" Tub	6.25	11.40	21.50
6" Tub	5/2.95	10/5.00	25/7.75

PLASTIC SAUCERS	25	50	100
3"	\$ 2.95	\$ 5.60	\$10.35
4"	3.85	7.00	13.00
5"	4.45	8.55	16.00
6"	5.25	10.10	18.60

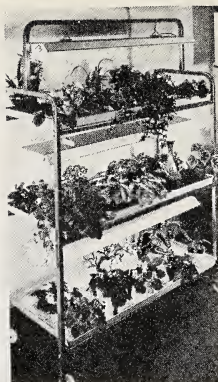
Due to high postage minimum order \$7.50.

Complete list of house plant supplies for stamp.
Texas residents include 5% Texas Sales Tax.

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GRO-CART is a scientifically equipped indoor plant stand, designed with special fluorescent lights to bring the advantages of an expensive greenhouse into your home. Experiment with hybridizing plants. Grow your own organic foods and herbs, or beautify the decor of your home with spring flowers the year 'round and raise beautiful blooming plants regardless of weather or season, right in your living room.

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Champion Variegates For 1977

CHERRY PARFAIT — Yummy cherry pink and white ruffled double. Excellent wavy foliage variegates in light greens. You'll love it.

BRIGHT BUTTERFLY — Bright pink double with wide side petals. Neat tan and green foliage.

AMETHYST SPARKS — Big white ruffled star with stripes of fuchsia. Very striking. Good light ruffled foliage.

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MISTY TRINKET — Pretty light pink double. Trim leaves variegate on edges. Semimini.

MIDGET RINGER — Dazzling pink single, usually bell-shaped. Almost a coral color. Pointed pinkish leaves. Adorable mini.

ORDER FROM THIS AD. ONLY THE ABOVE VARIETIES WILL BE SHIPPED THIS YEAR, May 1 to November 1. Starter plants \$2.75 each, less than 5, \$3.00 each. Minimum order 3 plants. POSTPAID. Plants will be sent by parcel post, special handling or air mail.

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Officially approved by AVSA Board

African Violet Notes



16 BEAUTIFUL VIOLETS PRINTED IN FULL COLOR. All Different.

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- ★ PALE PINK STARS EDGED WITH RED AND WHITE
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- ★ LIGHT BLUE STAR SAPPHIRES WITH DARKER RAYS
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Fredette  *Originals*

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Large stamped envelope for name of your nearest distributor or list (available in early Spring)

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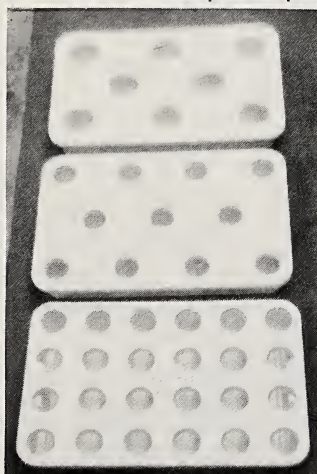
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All Plastic 6" tall,	16-oz. capacity
1	@ \$1.98 each
12	@ \$1.50 each
48	@ \$1.25 each
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Add 10 % for packing and shipping

PLASTIC WICKED STARTER TRAYS

14" x 22" x 3 1/4" Deep
with plastic pots



Tray and
8-9 oz. pots

Tray and
11-4 oz. pots

Tray and
24-4 oz. pots

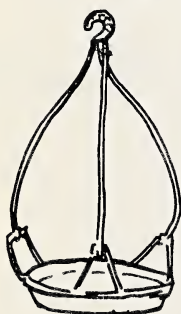
1 Pan and Tray	\$7.25 each
6 Pans and Trays	\$6.00 each

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Plastic Flower Pots

ALL FIRST QUALITY

	10	20	50	100	500	TYPE	Color
1 3/4"	.40	.70	1.60	3.00	13.00	Round Only	White Only
2 1/4"	.50	.85	2.00	3.50	15.00	Round or Square	White, Green
2 1/2"	.70	1.00	2.25	4.25	20.00	Round or Square	White, Green
3 "	.85	1.50	3.25	6.25	30.00	Round or Square	White, Green
3 1/2"	1.00	1.80	4.00	7.50	35.00	Round Tub or Square	White, Green, Utility
4 "	1.20	2.20	4.75	9.00	40.00	Round Tub, Square, Std.	White, Green
4 1/2"	1.50	2.80	6.00	11.50	55.00	Round Tub or Square	White, Green
5 "	1.80	3.40	7.50	13.50	62.50	Round Tub or Std.	White, Green
6 "	2.20	4.00	10.00	18.50	85.00	Round Tub or Std.	White, Green
6 1/2"	2.50	4.50	11.00	20.00	90.00	Round Tub	White, Green
7 "	4.50	8.50	20.00	36.00	170.00	Round Std.	Green, White
8 "	4.75	9.00	21.00	38.00	180.00	Round Std.	White, Green



PLASTIC HANGER & SAUCER

SIZE	COLOR	10	20	50	100
6 1/2"	Green White	3.50	6.50	15.50	28.00

Makes an instant hanging basket out of any pot up to 6 1/2"

PETERS FERTILIZERS

12-36-14	Violet Special	12-oz.	\$2.00
5-50-17	Variegated Special	12-oz.	2.00
20-20-20	General Purpose	16-oz.	2.00
10-30-20	Blossom Booster-Orchids	16-oz.	2.00
18-18-18	General Purpose	16-oz.	2.00
15-30-15	House Plant Special	16-oz.	2.00

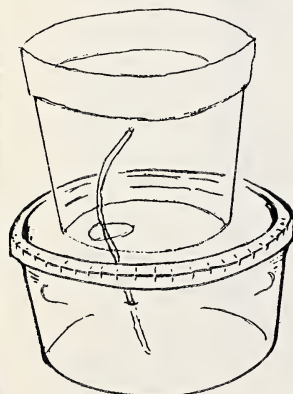
PLASTIC HANGING BASKETS

Size	Color	1	5	10
5 1/2"	White or Green	.75	3.25	6.00
6 "	White or Green	1.00	4.50	8.50
6 1/2"	White or Green	1.00	4.50	8.50
8 "	White or Green	1.25	6.00	11.00
10 "	White or Yellow	1.75	8.00	15.00
All with Saucers & Hangers				

PLASTIC FLOWER POT SAUCERS

Size	Color	10	20	50	100
3"	White	1.10	2.00	4.50	8.25
4"	White	1.50	2.60	6.00	11.00
5"	White	1.70	3.00	7.00	13.00

Perlite	1 Gal.	50¢
Sphagnum Peat Moss	1 Gal.	50¢
Vermiculite	1 Gal.	50¢
Charcoal	12-oz.	89¢
Dolomite Lime	16-oz.	50¢
Package 4" Plastic Marking Labels	(100)	1.50



WICK WATER

with

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS (snap-on-lids)

Lids are recessed to hold pots.
Last 2 - 5 weeks.

16-oz.

20 for	4.25
50 for	9.25
100 for	16.50
500 for	70.00

32-oz.

20 for	7.75
50 for	17.75
100 for	33.00
500 for	110.00

(Wicks not included)

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MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50 plus \$2.00 shipping
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WE SHIP U P S WHERE POSSIBLE.

SEE OUR 4 PAGE AD IN SEPT "76" ISSUE FOR COMPLETE ORDER FORM

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SALMON COVER—All 1975 rules, changes, awards, information updated, plus new material. Due to increase in printing and postage, \$3.00 per copy, including postage. Discount on orders of 25 or more. \$3.50 for books mailed to Canada.

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Please Send 25¢ for list.

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MACRAME HANGERS

MINI-HANGER: 24" to 28" for pots 3" to 4".
Perfect for Violets **\$4.00**

MIDI-HANGER: 3' to 4' for pots 8" to 12".
\$10.00

ELEGANT HANGER: 5' to 6 1/2' for pots 12" to 16".
\$20.00

All are unique hangers handcrafted to order from long-lasting, non-fading nylon or polyester cord with contrasting beads. Use indoors or outdoors. Great for gifts. Pots not included.

Color: White, green, red, yellow, blue, gold or natural.

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Spring African Violet Listing, 25¢.

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8-oz.	Trace Elements	\$2.00
8-oz.	Peters House Plant Special 15-30-15	1.50
8-oz.	Peters African Violet Special 12-36-14	1.75
8-oz.	Peters Variegated Violet Special 5-50-14 ..	2.00
1-oz.	Benomyl Fungicide—\$2.95	2-oz. 3.95
4-oz.	Kelthane-kills mites	1.70
4-oz.	Malathion 57% Insecticide	1.70
10-oz.	I. Bomb Spray for Violet Diseases	3.00
16-oz.	Fish Emulsion	1.90
2-oz.	African Violet Blossom Booster60
8-oz.	Systemic Granules—\$1.40	1 1/4 lb. 2.70
24-oz.	Fine Charcoal	1.60
2 lbs.	Superphosphate 0-20-0	1.40
1 gal.	Bag of our best balanced soil	1.50
SP20	Diston Cordless Electric One Gal. Sprayer ..	33.00
25 2 1/2"	Square white plastic pots	1.25
20 3 1/2"	Round green plastic pots	2.00
20 4 1/4"	Round green plastic pots	3.00
100 4"	H. Duty Plastic markers	1.75

MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50

Please Add \$2.50 U.P.S. and Packing
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MIDWINTER SPECIAL 25 LEAVES \$5.00

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Mail Order Only
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25¢ for 1977 List
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Distributor of Fredette Originals

Also many new varieties from Champion,
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Standards, Minis, and Trailers

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SOME OF NEW, SOME OF BEST
Assorted, labeled fresh cut leaves
7 PARSON SERIES—3 of which will be
variegated foliage.

13 BEST VARIETY LIST—See Nov. A. V. Magazine.

All 20 for \$8 plus \$2.50 first class which goes air mail where available. Offer includes fast growing tips.

Order now for Spring delivery starting March. Or choose the varieties you want - send 25¢ (refunded with order) for **descriptive list** with 28 Parsons (14 are variegated) plus our B.V.L.s and others.

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Specialists in variegated foliage, including the most complete selection of Champion's originations to be found anywhere. Also many other outstanding variegated and green varieties. Small plants shipped. Stamp for list.

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Fresh Cut A.V. Leaves

The best of the new and older varieties.

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6 Assorted Labeled Plants \$8.00
SELF-WATERING handcrafted ceramic African Violet
 pot in white and African Violet colors. State your
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 Plants shipped May 1st through November 1st.
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Due to the increased cost of postage and packaging we had to increase the price of books by 50 cents each. For books shipped out of the United States by surface mail please add \$1.50 for postage.	

Michigan residents please include 4% Sales Tax

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32 oz. bottle Alaska Fish Fertilizer 5-1-1	\$4.00
16 oz. bottle Alaska Fish Fertilizer 5-1-1	2.75
12 oz. bottle Sturdy 0-15-14	4.75
8 oz. bottle Sturdy 0-15-14	3.30
1½ lb. Blue Whale Soil Builder (1-1-1)	1.60
3 oz. can Mildex for Mildew	3.05
16 oz. bottle Cygon 2-E Insecticide	6.85
4 oz. bottle Kelthane Miticide	1.99
4 oz. bottle Malathion 50%	2.09
1½ lb. Systemic Insecticide Granules	3.65
8 oz. Peters House Plant Food (15-30-15)	1.95
8 oz. Peters General Purpose Plant Food (20-20-20)	1.95
8 oz. Peters Violet Special (12-36-14)	2.20
8 oz. Peters Variegated Special (5-50-17)	2.45
4 oz. bottle Superthrive (Vitamin-Hormone)	3.29
8 oz. Sphagnum Moss Milled (Nodampoff)	1.80
4 qts. Perlite \$1.20—8 qts.	\$2.20
2 qts. Hardwood Charcoal #10 fine, #6 medium 1.75	
2 qts. #3 Vermiculite fine grind 50 cents—4 qts. .80	
3 lbs. Carbamate Fermate, Ferbam Bulk	1.30
2 lbs. Dolomite Limestone	1.30
2 lbs. Calcium Carbonate Whiting	1.60
2 lbs. Superphosphate (0-20-0)	1.30
1 gal. Mary's African Violet Soil	1.35
1 gal. Mary's Starter Soil for leaves or baby plants	1.35

MINIMUM ORDER \$5.00 Postpaid

Michigan residents please add 4% Sales Tax

We ship by U.P.S. Please give name of street or road
 and Phone Number.

Mary's African Violets

19788 San Juan Ave.

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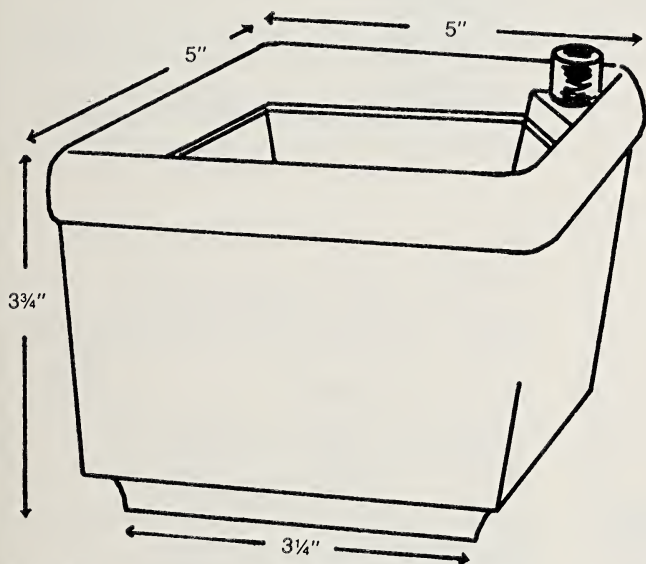
The House of Violets



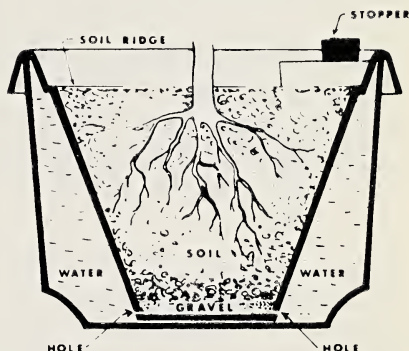
ANNOUNCING

We have been appointed factory representative for **SWIFT "MOIST—RITE" PLANTER**, a self watering flower pot. An automatic system designed to properly moisten soil. Made for African Violets and other plants.

ATTENTION: Do you sell African Violets and supplies? Send business card or letterhead requesting wholesale and distributor prices.



Better Plants — Less Care! The Self-Watering Planter Designed for African Violets and Other Plants.



Large water storage allows long intervals between refills. (sometimes several weeks—depending on plant.) Small outlet holes near inside bottom edge allow plant to draw moisture as required.

An automatic system designed to properly moisten soil. Nothing to deteriorate EVER!

The House of Violets



Charlyne and Ralph Reed
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Camden, Arkansas 71701



SWIFT "MOIST—RITE" PLANTER

(Circle color desired)

Please send us _____
(How many)

GREEN WHITE BLACK OPAQUE

Name	Single Planter	\$ 2.50
Address	Carton of 6	13.00
City	Carton of 12	23.00
State	Carton of 24	39.00
Zip		

(Price includes postage and handling)

BAKER'S AFRICAN VIOLETS

2433 Kingscliff Drive
Atlanta, Ga. 30345

ALL NEW INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1977

E. CHAMPION VARIEGATES

AMETHYST SPARKS — Single white star with fuchsia rays from center. Ruffled fol.
ANTIQUE CORAL — Big coral dbl. on compact plant. Plain fol.
BRIGHT BUTTERFLY — "Hot" pink dbl. with "butterfly" side petals. Plain fol.
CHERRY PARFAIT — Heavily ruffled cherry pink and white dbl. Ruffled fol.

HEAVENLY HALO — Large white semi-dbl. star with fuchsia mottling. Plain fol.
MIDGET RINGER — Very dark pink bell-shaped single on tiny, miniature fol.
MISTY TRINKET — Light pink semi-dbl. star on notched, semi-miniature fol.
SAPPHIRE TRINKET — Dark blue dbl. on waxy, semi-miniature fol.

GRANGER GARDENS

CRIMSON BEAUTY SPORT — Large white semi-dbl. star with cherry center and broad cherry edge. Plain dark fol.
DAINTY DOLL — Heavily fringed white semi-dbl. with blue lines. Ruffled dark fol.
PINK NIMBUS — $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch soft pink semi-dbl. star. Tailored fol. Show plant.

PINK REGENT — $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch rose pink star, slight geneva edge. Notched tailored fol.
PINK SPLENDOR — $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch shell pink semi-dbl. star. Tailored fol. Show plant.
SYLVAN BLUE — Large light blue semi-dbl. star. Sturdy tailored fol.

MAX MAAS

ERICA — Very large dark velvet purple dbl. Dark tailored fol. Show plant.
FRANCES — Huge dbl. white star, mottled red. Plain fol.
GLENN H. — Large medium blue-purple dbl. Pointed tailored fol. Show plant.

LITTLE JIM — Rosy pink dbl. Plain semi-miniature fol.
RASPBERRY STAR — Rosy red semi-dbl. star with cherry tips. Dark tailored fol.
SASHA — Large bright shell pink semi-dbl. with slight ruffle. Dark fluted fol. Show plant.

"LOU" VARIEGATES FROM THE PARSON

LITTLE PAMY — Bright medium pink dbl. Plain fol. Princess of show at Saintpaulia International Convention.
LYNN RENEE — Bright pink dbl. on plain fol. Show plant.
PARSON'S COURAGE — White and red mottled single. Heavy bloomer. Plain fol.
PARSON'S HONOR — White star brushed with blue. Plain fol.
PARSON'S LACE — Violet dbl. with deeper edge. Ruffled fol.
PARSON'S MELODY — Soft medium dbl. pink on plain fol.
PARSON'S PEACE — Frilly white single with orchid edge. Ruffled fol.

PARSON'S PLEASURE — Slightly frilled white single with red edge. Ruffled fol.
PARSON'S PRAYERS — Two-toned orchid dbl. Plain fol.
PARSON'S SONG — Deep blue dbl. with geneva edge. Notched fol.
PARSON'S SUNSHINE — Frilly orchid dbl. Ruffled fol.
PARSON'S TRIBUTE — White semi-dbl. with orchid edge. Plain fol.
PARSON'S TRIUMPH — Orchid and violet dbl. Ruffled fol. Show plant.
PARSON'S VICTORY — White semi-dbl. star with blue edge. Notched fol.

LYNDON LYON

FANTASM — White semi-dbl. flecked with blue. Unusual. Dark tailored fol.
ROYAL RUBY — $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep red semi-dbl. star showing golden stamens. Dark fol. Show plant.

LITTLE LULU — Bright magenta dbl. on miniature Tommie Lou fol.
LITTLE LOU — Medium blue dbl. on miniature Tommie Lou fol.

See elsewhere in this issue for descriptions of these other new varieties

MYSTICAL BLUE
COUNTRY CHARMER
CARE DEEPLY
DREAM WEAVER
CASUAL CLASSIC

LARA LOU
PURPLE SPOT
CLASSIC KITTY
PINK 'N INK
SNO BERRY

UNSPOKEN
BREEZY BLUE
TOY CLOWN
CRUNCHER
STEPPING OUT

TIMELESS
RED SPOT
LUCKY LOU
DENIM BLUE

ORDERING INFORMATION

Starter plants are \$2.50 ea. post. paid for overland transport. Add 15¢ extra per pot for air mail. Minimum order is 4 plants. Shipping starts April 1, 1977 to Southern states; other areas as weather permits. For a complete selection of varieties and descriptions send 25¢ for our new 1977 listing. Over 500 varieties available.

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Visit us when you come to the AVSA Convention in St. Louis and see our newest Illini varieties and those by leading hybridizers. No shipping.

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PLASTIC BOXES with "CLEAR" Lids

12 1/2" x 6 3/4" x 3 3/4"

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- See for yourself by comparing treated plants with those denied SOILWASH by Green Gold Inc.
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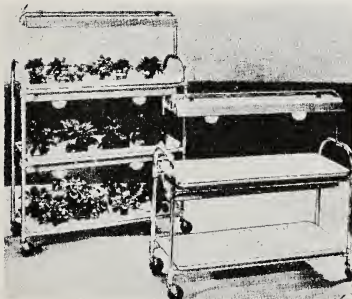
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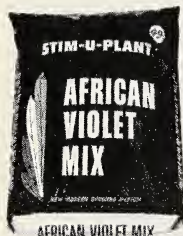
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Apr. 1976

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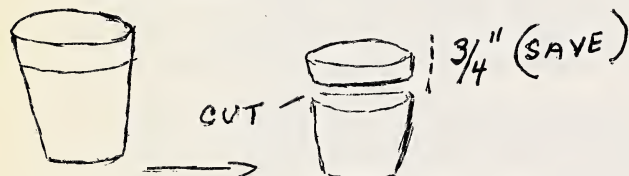
From Coffee Cups To Pots

Danny Mahen
326 Big Bend
Valley Park, MO 63088



Because I'm 14 years old and have only a small allowance, I'm always looking for ways of using what material I have on hand or can buy at low cost.

Since pots are one of my main expenses, I've learned to make them out of styrafoam coffee cups. It takes only a few easy steps, and makes a nice 2½ squatty pot. The styrafoam has several other advantages, too. It is light-weight, soft, warm; fertilizer salts do not accumulate on it as with clay pots, and the petioles do not rot when they touch it.



I use the 7-ounce size cup. First, make a hole in the bottom of the cup with a hot ice pick or sharp object that will not split the styrafoam.

Then with a razor blade, cut a 3/4" rim off the top. Set that aside. Now cut a 3/8" ring off the top of the cup and discard. Run some glue around the outer rim of the cup. Slip the 3/4" rim back up from the bottom and glue it in place. Let it dry.



This gives you a 2½" pot with a wide rim.

I have fastened a razor blade to a 3/4" thick piece of plywood on a 45-degree angle, and one to a 3/8" thick piece of plywood. I turn the cup upside down and turn it against the razor blade, cutting off the rim. This goes fast and the cuts are smooth and even.

I hope others will enjoy making and using these little pots.

Enjoy your coffee and save the cups.

Oh, Yeah?

Estelle Kienzle
68 Bayview Avenue
Staten Island, N. Y. 10309

Whoever heard of a bug living on a bar of soap or an onion?

With this fact in mind I decided to make some experiments. And this is the result of these experiments:

I have used tobacco powder in my soil for years. I also water my plants every two weeks with a brown soap water and on new plants at least once a week.

I also make a good suds with brown soap with an egg beater and just gently put this suds on top and underneath the leaves to clean them. After a couple of minutes I rinse thoroughly.

In the spring my backyard is full of wild scallions or onions. I use two cups of these greens cut up in one quart of boiling water which I use as a spray. Try this on your roses. The aphids will leave in a hurry.

Did You Know . . .

That 16 elements are essential for plant growth? According to the United States Department of Agriculture, these are carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen, sulfur, calcium, iron, magnesium, chlorine, molybdenum, boron, copper, manganese and zinc. These essential elements are present in the atmosphere or growing medium most of the time.

Carbon and oxygen are supplied as carbon dioxide from the air. Hydrogen enters the plant as water. The other thirteen elements, which generally enter the plant through the roots as inorganic salts, must be present in the growing medium. Plants use more nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium than they do other elements and these are the three elements generally listed on most fertilizer products.

Soil can be deficient in any of the essential elements but, generally, supplies sufficient quantities of iron, chlorine, molybdenum, boron, copper, manganese and zinc. Occasionally sulfur, calcium and magnesium are added to the soil. When growing plants in a soilless medium, all of the essential elements must be supplied.

Random Notes...

from here and there

Miniature African violets never become standard size plants no matter how old they are. They should be potted in small containers no larger than two and one-half inch pots, demi tasse cups or other diminutive containers.

Miniatures produce new leaves at the crown and need to have the older leaves removed from the base in the same manner as standard plants are groomed. When several rows of lower leaves have been removed the plant's main stem, which is often referred to as the neck, will extend above the pot rim. When this happens it is time to repot. Slice off as much as one-third from the bottom of the root ball, remove a little soil from the top and sides so the plant can be sunk deeper into a clean pot of the same size while adding some fresh potting mix.

Miniatures are ideal for windowsill growing since they only grow to six inches in diameter at maturity.

It is wise to try to find out what the pH of your soil is before starting to re-pot. It is an established fact that the African violet, and also most of the other gesneriads, prefer a soil that is only slightly acid. A pH of 6.9 to 7 seems to be ideal. There are simple soil testing kits available as well as more elaborate and expensive ones. However, even the humble litmus paper can be quite a helpful guide. It is very difficult to adjust your soil after a plant is potted, so try to be sure it is correct to start with.

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AFRICAN VIOLETS AND TISSUE CULTURING

*Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt**

(ED. NOTE: This is the first of three articles on "Tissue Culturing African Violets" by Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt. Research was supported by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and by Hatch Project No. 981. The senior author acknowledges with special thanks scholarship support from The Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs and encouragement from Mrs. William Wall in this research)

A new breakthrough in African violet research has occurred. Tissue culturing, a part of micro-propagation, is providing scientists with new methods for solving complex plant genetic problems — producing new hybrids asexually, and developing mass propagation techniques. Although tissue culturing is at an early stage of development, it provides an important potential tool for creating the first true yellow flowering African violet.

Tissue culturing is the process of growing and controlling live plant cells aseptically on an artificial culture medium containing all nutrients needed for good growth. The culture media, consisting of water, sugar and agar, contains fertilizers, trace

elements, vitamins, and various hormones. Changes in the hormonal levels forces the growing cells to either divide, forming callus, turn into a mass of roots, or sprout plantlets. Various sizes and shapes of culture vessels may be used including tubes, flasks, jars, and bottles.

The number of plantlets that could be produced from a single cell is limitless. The method used is called mass micro-propagation and is a prelude to all other tissue culture research. Tests show that more plantlets can be produced per unit time by micro-propagation methods than using any other method of propagation. As many as 20,000 plantlets have been produced from a single African violet leaf in approximately 3 months (Fig. 1) Given the same amount of time, the normal method of rooting leaf cuttings may send up only 5 plants.

Scientists are not always limited to using only leaf tissue to sprout plantlets. Violets have been propagated from flower stalks, anthers, and even flower petals. (Fig. 2)



Figure 1. Growing African violet plantlets propagated from a 1/8 inch piece of a cross-sectioned petiole, age-10 weeks.

*Peter C. Bilkey — Graduate Student, Department of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

A. C. Hildebrandt — Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

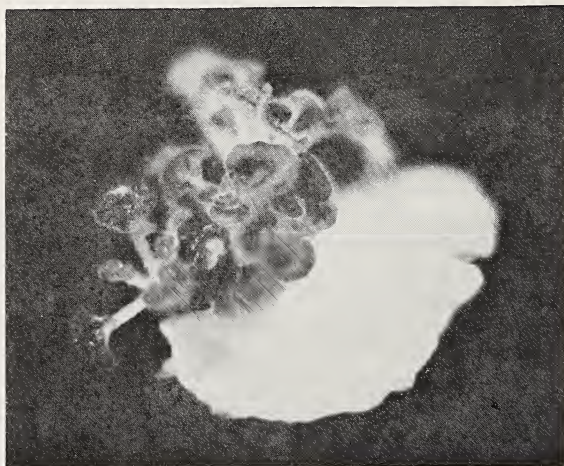


Figure 2. Close up of African violets sprouting from a flower petal, age-10 weeks.

Plants from anthers have yielded haploids (half the normal number of chromosomes). Using haploid African violets greatly facilitates such work as select chromosomal transplantations and asexual hybridization.

With the aid of tissue culturing, chromosome transplants are now considered possible. Culturing cells artificially provides a convenient stage for genetic research on live single cells. Transplanting chromosomes that affect a specific flower color, such as yellow, or flower fragrance, into a growing African violet cell may result in an African violet with golden yellow flowers and a gardenia-like scent. The possibilities appear unlimited.

Asexual hybridization of cultured plant cells is proving to be easier than transplanting chromosomes. Cross breeding without fertilization by pollen greatly increases the variety of plants that can be crossed. Asexual hybridization involves taking haploid parent plants that have been produced by anther culturing, and growing their cells on an agar culture media. Once enzymes have been used to remove the cell walls, the two parent cells (protoplasts) are fused together. The cells' contents then become mixed (hybridized) which doubles their chromosome count back to normal, and a new hybrid results. This hybrid cell is placed on fresh medium where it forms a new cell wall and grows rapidly. Adjusting the hormones in the medium triggers the hybrid cell to turn into a whole plant having the combination of both parents. Plant production following asexual hybridization has to now only been possible with tobacco cells, but similarly by using asexual hybridization techniques, it may be possible to cross African violets with episcias, violets with gloxinias, violets with many plants that could never before be crossed using conventional techniques.

Tremendous advances in the science of horticulture are occurring. Unfortunately plant experimentations, such as the ones listed, are extremely complicated. They demand precise, often expensive laboratory equipment and extensive knowledge in the sciences of Horticulture, Bacteriology, Botany, Plant Pathology, Genetics, Plant Physiology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry, and a well rounded background in other related sciences. Research requires years of work, extreme patience, and a life-long devotion. On a project-by-project basis the chance of failure is much greater than the chance of success, but the successes are cumulative. With tissue culturing as a foundation tool, the future of horticulture is increasingly promising.

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USE EGGSHELLS

Never throw eggshells away. Use raw eggshells in your potting mix — a cheap fertilizer that would either go down the drain or the town dump.

WHEN TO TRANSPLANT

Mrs. Jesse M. Swink
1774 Imperial Ridge
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Several years ago I read an article which said, "Your African violets will tell you when they need transplanting." At that time I was not a violet linguist, but have made a concerted effort to "listen" to the plants and meet their needs in every way including transplanting.

This is not intended as a "How To —" article, but a "When To —". In a few cases one aspect of transplanting overlaps the other as a continuation of the subject.

The question most frequently asked me by people growing African violets is, "How can you tell when a violet needs transplanting?" Every time I transplant I have stopped to ask myself the same question in an effort to compile some answers that may be of some help to other growers who may need this information.

Mature African violets do like to be root-bound, but there comes a time when the roots are too compact. When this happens, there is no place for roots to grow except out the drainage holes. This is a very obvious sign that transplanting is necessary. If plants are wick-watered and fed, a root will often grow down the wick into the reservoir. This does not necessarily indicate the plant needs transplanting, but that it likes the extra food and water found on the wick. This one root can be pruned without injury to the root system and the plant left in its same pot until some other indication is shown that transplanting is called for.

Sometimes well-established plants that have never crowned before will produce crowns around the base of the plant. When these plants are removed from their pots for examination, a root system will be found so compact that there is little soil left for the roots to penetrate. Transplanting to a pot one inch larger in diameter is necessary, or a root-cropping and removal of as much old soil as can be loosened from the roots and replanted in a clean pot of the same size.

Plants which are several years old usually lose bottom rows of leaves. This produces a long neck which is unsightly. Transplanting to a deeper pot and the addition of fresh soil to the top surface around the bare neck area makes a more attractive plant.

Baby plants show their need for transplanting in equally recognizable signs. In its first pot (1¾-2¼") a plant may have a crown so bunched and crowded the leaves are growing sideways. The

plant needs a pot one inch larger in diameter so that it can grow symmetrically into a flat rosette.

Often a baby plantlet has been planted at the proper depth, but in four or six weeks it seems to have sunk down into the pot. This can be remedied without a total transplant. The little plant can be gently lifted with a fork to the proper height and fresh soil added in the bottom of the pot to a depth sufficient to raise the plant to a height that will permit the leaves to extend over the rim of the pot.

When a plant seems to wobble in its pot, a few bottom leaves can be removed and the plant repotted in a size larger pot. This brings the petioles of the bottom row of leaves level with the rim of the pot and makes it more stable. Fresh soil can be added to the top surface to cover where the leaves were removed and new roots may develop here.

African violets are also transplanted for aesthetic reasons. The general rule for pot size of a standard mature blooming plant is that the diameter of the pot be one-third the diameter of the plant. A pot that is too small will not support the petioles of the leaves, causing them to droop and eventually be damaged by their own weight on the rim of the pot. A pot that is too large will contain so much extra soil that there is danger of root rot because the roots can not absorb the extra water contained in the soil.

Mature plants which have not bloomed for a long period of time may benefit from transplanting. Part of the old soil can be removed by gently working your fingers through the root mass and cropping some of the root system. New potting soil is used to fill in to the proper depth in a fresh clean pot. If extensive root cropping is done, potting down to a smaller pot may be necessary.

These tips for transplanting do not apply to miniatures, semiminiatures, or trailers. These plants have a different "language" to communicate their needs. I am in my first year with these plants and am still learning to care for them.

MRS. BUSCHKE IS JUDGE

Mrs. Edward W. Buschke of 11 Drumlin Drive, Morris Plains, NJ is an AVSA judge. Her name was omitted from the list of judges in the September magazine.



KIRA

HOWARD UTZ

ANIRA



REVITALIZING SOIL ENERGY IN POTTED PLANTS

*Dr. C. Gustav Hard
Professor Horticulture
University of Minnesota*

Human civilization throughout the ages has been a process of living with nature and fighting it at the same time; shielding the sun or rain, changing the very air we breathe, altering the course or quality of rivers and, most basically, modifying the conditions for plant growth.

What may be the ultimate challenge of nature, and certainly its most obvious representation, is the growing of plants indoors and in containers. It is an age-old practice and quite universally popular as people try to hold on to a bit of the natural world within increasingly unnatural surroundings in the confined spaces which we call homes.

The growing of plants indoors is an unnatural system, a series of activities contrary to the ordered course of nature.

Light is important for growing green things; so, we arrange to augment or capture a bit of sunlight in houses and apartments. Water and temperature are other essentials of the growing environment; and, means of supplying or controlling those elements have been developed.

An equally important ingredient of a growing system is the soil. And, many ways of tampering with the natural dynamics of soil have been devised under pressure to increase the production of food. But, similar processes, when applied to the growing of plants in the doubly-unnatural environment of small containers and indoor conditions, have created about as much disappointment as satisfaction.

I believe that much of the disappointment is traceable to a lack of understanding, and a lack of appreciation for the fact that soil is a dynamic, living entity.

Plants that are brought into the house, if obtained from a reliable nursery or greenhouse, usually will have been given optimum water, light and nutrients, and will have been potted in an appropriate soil mixture. The elements necessary for successful growth should thus be in proper balance.

The average home owner or apartment dweller may be less sophisticated in the ways of plant life than the greenhouse professional; but, chances are that anyone who buys a plant has acquired a little

knowledge of floral culture. Yet, while intending to do well for plants, the average gardener is hardly likely to have much knowledge about management of the soil.

Plants brought into the house in clay pots or other small containers are particularly sensitive to soil-related problems.

A common symptom of distress is the accumulation of salts from watering and fertilizing. White deposits will appear on the side of the container and on the surface of the soil. This condition results from a lack of microbiological activity.

Reduced microfloral activity under ordinary potted plant environmental conditions results in a breakdown of the soil's bio-structure. The soil becomes crusty and contracts from the sides of the pot. Aeration is restricted and the soil's moisture-holding capacity is reduced. That can doom the plant to pot-binding, as the roots try to reach whatever moisture is available in the drainage area on inside surfaces of the container but farthest from the central root cluster.

A little-understood problem of growing plants indoors is the effect over time of inorganic fertilizers. The chemicals in common use, while they do feed the plant, may adversely inhibit the natural interaction of bio-organisms with the soil.

In their natural function, the microbiological organisms will produce nitrogen from protein as well as fix nitrogen from the air. They also produce phosphorous, potassium and vital trace elements from organic energy sources essential to the growth of plants. Where there is a proper microbiologic balance, air spaces will exist between soil particles to provide oxygen reservoirs for respiration. Bio-floral action also breaks down dead, non-functioning roots and produces colloids and gels to help retain compounds that might otherwise be leached out by watering. That statement may appear contradictory, but we know from research that a highly-active, microbiological population in the soil actually enhances the efficiency of chemical additives as well as stimulating inherent nutrient properties of the soil.

In other words, an appropriate selection of microfloral population increases the soil's capacity

for storing excess nutrients or inorganic elements and releasing them as needed by the plant.

When the nutrient supply is restricted, nature's competitive scheme operates, and the microflora soon feed on the inadequate supply at the expense of the plant. This is a situation common to all growing things, which depend upon microfloral activity. Where the nutrient source is balanced and constant, plants grow well, last longer and develop greater immunity to diseases or insects.

There is nothing really new in this theory of the dynamic character of soil because nature has produced a symbiotic inter-relationship between microflora and plants over billions of years. In that cyclical relationship, plants produce high-energy, organic compounds through photosynthesis. The materials are returned to the soil when the plants die or shed their leaves, providing nutrients for the microorganisms. By way of enzyme action, the microflora in turn break down the plant matter into simpler organic forms which can, in their turn, be utilized by plants to complete the cycle.

Recognition of the workings of this biological chain is the key to agriculture and horticulture. Crop rotation is the best-known example where vegetative matter is plowed back into the soil to maintain or restore its dynamic fertility and tilth with organic nutrition.

But, when plants are grown in containers of limited size and away from their natural environment, which is the case for most house plants, the biological cycle is broken. Microflora are deprived of their consistent nutrient source and diminish accordingly.

To counteract this microbiological deficiency, basic controlling principles of nature must be duplicated in the container environment. Vital properties of the soil must be preserved or renewed by introducing material on which soil micro-organisms can feed and multiply to perform their function in revitalizing the soil. Tests under a variety of home conditions demonstrate the importance of life sustaining soil to insure better, healthier potted plants in the unnatural environment of containers kept indoors.

The author has researched and applied this microbiological approach to indoor potted plant culture, using a new biological material RESTORE*, which has proved highly effective in replenishing the population of soil bacteria, fungi and microflora and in providing organic compounds on which the micro-organisms thrive as in nature.

Using this organic material in potted plant soil, evidence of its effects were observed within a period of four to six weeks. Initially the white sodium or calcium deposits, which occur with wat-

ering, diminish and disappear. The soil develops greater moisture retention, allowing the less frequent watering. Revitalized soil displays a looser particle texture, a rich dark brown color and a sweet, fresh aroma typical of newly plowed farmland. Nutrient-deficient plants returned to healthy green coloration and bloom without repotting.

*RESTORE: A product of Ringer Corporation, 6860 Flying Cloud Dr., Eden Prairie, MN 55343

IN MEMORIAM

Wayne W. Schroeder

AVSA members and the Board of Directors extend sincere sympathy to Mildred Schroeder on the death of her husband, Wayne W. Schroeder, on Sunday, Sept. 19 following surgery at an Elmwood, IL hospital. Mrs. Schroeder has been a long-time AVSA worker. A member of the Board of Directors, she is now serving as chairman of the Nominating Committee and is also vice chairman of the Publications Committee. For several years she served as Library Chairman.

Miss Mary Searl

Miss Mary Searl of the Tallahassee (FL) AVS and a former member of the Margaret Scott AVS of Urbana, IL, passed away in August. Miss Searl was made an honorary member of the Tallahassee AVS three years ago when she became unable to attend meetings. She had been growing African violets since 1942 and was a retired registered nurse. Her death was a great loss to the Tallahassee AVS for she had been an active worker and loved violets.

Mrs. Anne Bobotis

We were grieved to learn of the death of one of AVSA's longtime Life Members. She was Mrs. Anne Bobotis, 21-12 49th Street, Astoria, L.I., NY. Mrs. Bobotis died Sept. 27, 1976. Mrs. Bobotis had been a Life Member since 1960.

SAVE LARGE FEATHERS

Has Papa been hunting pheasants? Save the large feathers. They make excellent brushes for cleaning leaves and removing particles of earth, etc. from the axil.

MAX MAAS

(Photos by Burton)



FLAMINGO



MARK



FROM CHAMPIONS

'76

(Photos by Grower)

PINK
PILLOW



HALF
&
HALF

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND

Mrs. L. F. (D.J.) Kidiak
4503 Sinclair Avenue
Austin, TX 78756

Research: "Studious inquiry; usually critical and exhaustive investigation or experimentation having for its aim the revision of accepted conclusions in the light of discovered facts." Research: "Diligent protracted investigation; studious inquiry. In science, a systematic investigation of some phenomenon or series of phenomena by the experimental method." The first quote is from *Webster's* the second from *Funk and Wagnalls Dictionary*. I cite them both here to emphasize one point — scientific research by any definition is a long, tedious, exhaustive, and expensive process.

The Boyce Edens Research Fund has benefitted from the donations of the AVSA affiliates and individuals. As a result scientific research into the mysteries of the African violet has been pursued by specialists for many years. To cite just a few examples of the studies that BERF has sponsored, I would call your attention to various articles that have been published in the *AVM* regarding grants made since 1971. "Research Continues on Mealy Bugs and Root-Knot Nematodes", Dr. Herbert T. Streu, Rutgers University; "Research on Plant Mutations Under Way at Ohio State University", a Research Committee Report by Mr. Frank Tainari; "Boyce Edens Research Fund Encourages Young Grower", a study of polyploidy in *Saintpaulia* reported by then AVSA President Cordelia Rienhardt; "AVSA Continues Research Through Boyce Edens Fund", another Research Committee Report citing the recently-made grant to Dr. Richard Craig of Penn State University. The last named project was the subject of a most exhilarating speech given by Dr. Craig at the Atlanta Convention, and then reported on by Frank Tinari in the September, 1976, issue of the *AVM*.

By its very nature research must be most frustrating at times — it is not always possible to solve the particular problem at hand, but some unexpected fact may be discovered that is just as important (or perhaps more so) than the original question being addressed. In any event, time must expire for the thorough testing procedures to be followed — it is simply not an overnight process, therefore the report may seem to be long in coming — patience must endure.

The Boyce Edens Research Fund has been sup-

AVSA BOOSTER FUND

Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71106

WHAT IS THE BOOSTER FUND? This fund established in 1968 by the AVSA Board of Directors is for members who wish to contribute more than dues to AVSA activities. This fund becomes a part of the general treasury and through this fund AVSA supports **EXTRA** projects for the benefit of AVSA members. Your contribution supports AVSA in doing the extras that make this society what it is today. Watch the magazine for a listing of your contributions, they are always appreciated. Please keep them coming in.

Contributions from Sept. 1 to Oct. 1, 1976.

The Inner City AVS, St. Louis, Mo.
in honor of Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Anderson for
their support and assistance \$10.00
AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA in lieu of
speaker's fee to Mrs. Robert Hamilton . . . 10.00
Wisconsin Council of African Violet
Clubs, Madison, WI 25.00
Viva La Violet Club, O'Fallon, IL 10.00
Red River AVS, Sherman, TX 5.00
Mrs. O. E. McFarland, Denison, TX 3.00

ported long and faithfully by many who must feel a sense of satisfaction when the donor(s) reads reports such as the ones cited above. It is hoped that each of you will keep this important fund in mind the next time you wish to make a donation where it will be used judiciously.

Contributions made from July 27 to September 26, 1976.

African Violet Culture Club,
Port Arthur, TX \$25.00
AVS of Painesville, OH 10.00
Wisconsin Council of AVC 25.00
The AVS of Denver (CO) - Chapter No. 1
in memory of Dr. Frank W. Elliott 5.00
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Brazos Valley AVC Bryan, TX	5.00



Mrs. Talbot (Helen) Freie
Affiliate Chairman
4854 N. Cedar Ave.
El Monte, CA 91732



1977 — The beginning of a brand new year. Many new Affiliates interested in having shows, seeking information, and, of course wanting to have one of the very best shows ever staged. This is GREAT. This is the way it should be. ENTHUSIASM, COMPETITION, DETERMINATION are the factors upon which a winning show is built. To make these wheels roll we must first read Ruth Careys' hand book and know procedure as she outlines it from start all the way through a show. This is the greatest complete information you can get and no one should try for a winning show without this guide. Next send at least two months in advance for your AVSA Collection awards. (The mails grow more sluggish every week.) Included in this package will be the forms for the Standard Show Award (Green Rosette). Study this form and

know what is required for an award winning show. Follow the instructions and see how it all falls into place very simply.

I feel very badly about the new affiliates that are not listed in this issue. If you will answer my letters and get the necessary information back to me, you will have your Charters, and be listed in the March magazine. The reason for the delay is: Many groups send in their dues to the Knoxville office and all the information I get is a name and that the affiliation dues have been paid. It is impossible to affiliate a club this way. I am sorry! There is much more important information needed to complete all records. I have been saying this over and over again to send to me first for the procedure, then, to carry through according to instructions. You will all be happier with the results.

Affiliates that received their charters before April 1976 did not receive their Presidents' Guide Booklets, because I did not have them at that time. If you feel the need for one before your next Charter, please let me know and I will send you the free one you are entitled to. If you want an extra one send one dollar to the Knoxville office.

NEW AFFILIATES

This month we welcome into affiliation three new affiliates:

ULTRA VIOLET CLUB, Mrs. Geneva Holmes,
8810 Hooker Way, Westminster, CO 80030

TENDER LOVING CARE AVC, Fran Raiden,
2009 N. Main, Bonham, TX

MILE-HI NORTH AVS, Susan Verspohl, 10473
Sperry St., Northglenn, CO 80234

Wishing you all a Happy New Year — Happy
Growing — and Beautiful Showings.

USE WOOL TO MATCH BLOOMS

Here's a "Sales Table Tip", printed in the Canadian AVS "Chatter", we'd like to pass on to our readers:

This may be "old hat". to some of our experienced show people, but did you know that bits of brightly colored wool can speed up the sale of leaves on the "plants 'n leaves" sales table? It does save the answering of so many questions about the color of the blooms of certain varieties. Most everyone uses the adhesive tape method of marking plant names on leaves and a bit of bright wool matching the color of the bloom the leaf produces, slipped under the tape, helps immensely. Sometimes even the volunteer selling at the table is stymied by a new variety. Why not one strand for "single", two strands for "double".



TINY TOT

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St. Louis Asks You For "3rd Time Around"

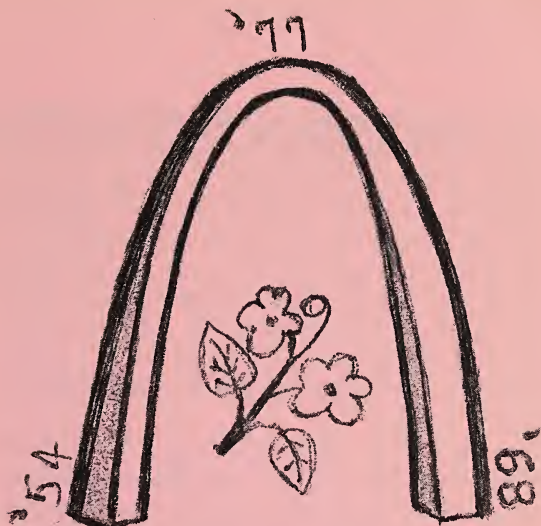
*Mrs. H. L. Holt
Publicity Chairman*

What does the 1977 Convention hold in store for you? At the 1954 Convention in St. Louis double pink violets were introduced. Rhapsodie violets were first shown in 1968 in St. Louis. We invite you to be among the first to see the new introductions for this year — our third convention.

We want you to enjoy all aspects of the convention. But maybe you or your family are looking for a little more — what else is there to do and see in St. Louis? We have many educational, historical and entertaining sights, sounds and taste treats for you to enjoy. Some interesting tours have been planned, but you may like to strike out on your own to visit a few places. A few of the favorites are:



The Gateway Arch: Founded in 1764 as a French trading post, St. Louis soon became the gateway to the west. The 630-foot steel arch on the Mississippi waterfront symbolizes the role St. Louis played in the epic surge westward. A ride to the observation deck at the top of the Arch affords a panoramic view to the east and west. A train inside each leg is made up of capsules mounted like baskets of a ferris wheel to permit a smooth and level ride thru the curve of the leg. (This year we've cancelled the unscheduled stop



midway up). Under the base of the arch in an underground space nearly the size of a football field is the recently opened (August 1976) National Museum of Westward Expansion. Fifteen-foot high murals around a 600 foot perimeter wall depict the travels of Lewis and Clark who launched their two-year expedition from St. Louis. Many items used by trappers, miners, cowboys and settlers who followed are on display. Life-size mounts of bison, Texas longhorn, an Appaloosa horse and a pair of beavers are present.

The St. Louis Zoo in Forest Park is one of the finest anywhere in the world. It has more than 2500 animals, birds and reptiles. A one-and-a-half mile railroad takes passengers around the park. Big Cat Country is the newest addition to the Zoo where you may observe the big cats — lions, tigers, jaguars and leopards — in beautiful naturalistic outdoor settings.

Also housed in Forest Park is the Jefferson Memorial which contains historical exhibits of Charles Lindbergh, Lewis and Clark, Thomas Jefferson, an aerospace gallery and an old toy shop. As many of you know, Forest Park was the site of the 1904 World's Fair. Today it is a park. Many of the lovely fountains that spouted perfumed water during those days, are gone. A very few of the buildings and sculptures remain and of course, the whole world has the ice cream cone, which was born during the fair.

For the scientific minded — McDonnell Planetarium (in the park) contains astronomy and space travel displays including models of Mercury, Gemini and Apollo spacecraft. The depths of space and mysteries of the universe are demonstrated, highlighted by the Goto Star Projector. The first spacecraft to carry American astronauts beyond the earth were built in St. Louis. McDonnell Douglas Corporation (near the airport) has the futuristic space shuttle and full-size engineering models of Mercury and Gemini spacecraft on display.

The Museum of Science and Natural History offers a wealth of information in its exhibits on all aspects of the physical science of the earth — the atmosphere, the solar system, the oceans and the forces that shape the land. A six-foot diameter revolving globe shows the land surfaces and ocean bottoms in relief. There are mineral specimens gathered from around the world. Other exhibits depict the evolution of man, organs and systems of the human body, Egyptian culture, Indian life and Missouri ecology.

For the sports fans — our Cardinal Baseball team plays at Busch Memorial Stadium which has also a Sports Hall of Fame with history illustrated by murals, trophies and World Series movies. There are also displays on basketball, soccer, golf, bowling, hockey and football. Baseball's recorded history in St. Louis goes back to 1850 when a team called the Empires represented the city. It lost some games by scores of 52-26, 63-6 against teams from Atlantic City and Philadelphia.

For the young at heart — a day at Six Flags at Eureka, Mo. may be in order. It offers 80 different rides and attractions, including the world's largest, fastest and longest roller coaster called the "Screamin' Eagle".

Missouri Botanical (Shaw's) Garden covers 79 acres devoted to garden and horticultural displays. A highlight is the Climatorn, a geodesic dome enclosed in rigid Plexiglas, that features plants and climatic conditions of four separate temperature zones. Temperature and humidity variations allow plants to flourish in ideal conditions, from jungle to desert. The Tower Grove House, the restored residents of Henry Shaw who founded the Garden, contains furnishings, kitchen utensils, clothing and antiques from 1865-80. The newest additions to

the Garden are an English garden and a 10-acre Japanese garden.

The Eugene Field House, birthplace of the famed children's poet contains furnishings and personal belongings of Eugene Field. An extensive collection of antique toys and dolls of interest to all ages has been assembled here.

You may wish to visit other historic homes in the area, or the Old Cathedral, The Old Courthouse where slaves were sold and was the scene of the Dred Scott slavery trial, the Medical Historical Museum, the Art Museum, Grant's Farm. Or, How about shopping, viewing live theatre, hockey, going antiquing, browsing at the flea market, or touring a brewery? What is your cup of tea? Whatever it is . . . ST. LOUIS HAS IT — FROM A TO Z. Come! Partake of the Convention and take a little extra vacation to see St. Louis.

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

SHOW HOSTS AND HOSTESSES

Anyone interested in serving as host or hostess during the time the St. Louis Show is open, please send the following blank to Mrs. L. R. Surwald, 7510 Bull Run Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123 no later than March 10, 1977:

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FOR JUDGING SCHOOL
FOR NEW AND REFRESHER JUDGES

CHASE PARK-PLAZA HOTEL ST. LOUIS, MO
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1977

A class for new and refresher judges will be held from 7:45 a.m. to 12 noon for judges desiring to refresh their certificates and for those desiring to become new judges. The examination and point score judging will be held on Wednesday afternoon, 2 - 3 p.m. Registration fee is \$1.00.

Name _____ Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sign blank and send registration fee of \$1.00 to Mrs. W. M. Plaster, 8304 Suffolk Dr., Shreveport, LA 71106, no later than April 1, 1977 if you wish to attend. Please study the African Violet Handbook (1975 Salmon cover) before coming to class.

Tours Set For 1977 Convention

*Nancy and Flo Willetts
AVSA Convention
Tours Co-Chairmen
St. Louis, MO*

Tuesday, April 26, All Day — St. Louis City Tour.

Leave Chase-Park Plaza Hotel at 9:30 a.m., return 4 p.m. Lunch on the Robert E. Lee included. Price \$15.00.

Leaving the hotel we drive down Lindell Boulevard, named for Jesse Lindell, whose farm once encompassed the area, through Laclede Town, passing Union Station, Milles Fountain, regarded as one of the truly great sculptures in the United States and whose 14 bronze figures represent classical Roman river gods and water nymphs, symbolizing the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, and government buildings. We will tour the Old Courthouse, the Old Cathedral, the Riverfront, the Gateway Arch, and continue to the Anheuser-Busch Stables for a visit with the famous Clydesdales. Our lunch on the Lt. Robert E. Lee provides excellent food and a closeup view of river traffic on the Mississippi.

After lunch we explore the 79 acres comprising the Missouri Botanical Garden with Henry Shaw's living legacy of Victorian Grandeur to the ultra modern Lehman Library and the Climatron.

Then through Forest Park, passing Muni Opera, the Zoo and Art Museum with a 30 minute stop at the Jefferson Memorial where the Missouri Historical Society has an extensive display and houses the Lindbergh, Lewis and Clark and Thomas Jefferson Collections.



Gen. Daniel Bissell House

Wednesday, April 27, All Day — Heritage Homes Tour

Leave the Chase-Park Plaza at 9:30 a.m., return 4 p.m. Lunch at a private club included. Price \$17.00

Our first stop will be in North County at the General Daniel Bissell home. In the light but simple Federal style, the house was built of bricks made on the site begun in 1812 and completed in 1819. Of the original 2300 acres in the estate nine remain. Beautifully restored and furnished with period pieces representing the 150 years of Bissell family occupation, some of the original furniture remains. Then back to the river to Chatillon-DeMenil House. This ante-bellum mansion, an excel-



The Chatillon-DeMenil Home

lent example of Greek Revival architecture is located on the old Arsenal Hill in the heart of the brewery district, overlooking the Mississippi Campbell House, a Mid-Victorian townhouse is only one of the few old homes in the United States to be completely restored with its original furnishings. We will be guests for luncheon at a private club in Clayton which excels in cuisine and service and panoramic view. Also in Clayton we will visit Hanley House which is typical of Greek Revival archi-

ecture used on many Missouri farms in the pre-Civil War period. The grounds typify a Missouri farm of the restoration era from 1855-1894. All of the furnishings are from 1820 to 1890. Much of the old furniture was in the house at the time it was purchased by the city.

Thursday, April 28 - Plaza Frontenac, Brunch and Shopping

Leave Chase-Park Plaza at 9:30 a.m., return at 2:30 p.m. Brunch at the Magic Pan included. Price \$6.00.

This morning we drive west on Lindell Boulevard through the handsome residential areas of the city, Clayton and Ladue to Plaza Frontenac, our newest and most elegant shopping mall. Brunch will be at the Magic Pan where the food is delicious and the atmosphere charming. We will enjoy a Fashion Show from Saks Fifth Avenue, after which there will be time for shopping or browsing in the many shops which can truly offer something for everyone.

NOMINATION OF 1977-78 OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee will submit the following slate of officers for the election to be held at the annual business meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., at St. Louis, MO, April 30, 1977.

Officers

President, Mrs. E. A. Nelson, St. Louis, MO.

First Vice President, Mrs. Marvin Garner, North Canton, OH

Second Vice President, Mrs. W. J. Krogman, Brookfield, WI

Third Vice President, Mr. Harvey Stone, Marblehead, MA

Secretary, Mrs. H. N. Hansen, Jenkintown, PA

Treasurer, Miss Florence Garrity, Roslindale, MA

Directors

Mrs. Lester S. Fladt, Miami Springs, FL

Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Prescott, WI

Miss Sandra M. Lex, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Mrs. Thomas B. McKneely, McLean, VA

Miss Nell Sue Tyson, Denver, CO

Nominating Committee of the African Violet Society of America, Inc.:

Past President, Mrs. W. F. Anderson; Past President, Miss Edith Peterson; Member of Committee, Mrs. Sidney Bogin; Vice Chairman, Mrs. Harold Rienhardt; Chairman, Mrs. Wayne Schroeder.

ATTENTION: QUALIFIED JUDGES

All qualified judges who desire to judge in the St. Louis convention show, please fill in the blank and mail to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918, no later than March 1, 1977. If you plan to enter in the show, please indicate which class or classes.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

AVSA Judge _____ Lifetime Judge _____

Gesneriad Judge _____

Miniature Judge _____

Semiminiature Judge _____

National Council Judge _____

Judging Experience _____

JUDGE'S CLERKS

Anyone desiring to serve as a judge's clerk at the 1977 convention, please fill in the blank and mail to Mrs. Robert Laske, 4110 Walsh Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63116 by March 1, 1977:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

RESERVATIONS FOR CLASS IN THE DESIGN DIVISION

Name _____

Street _____

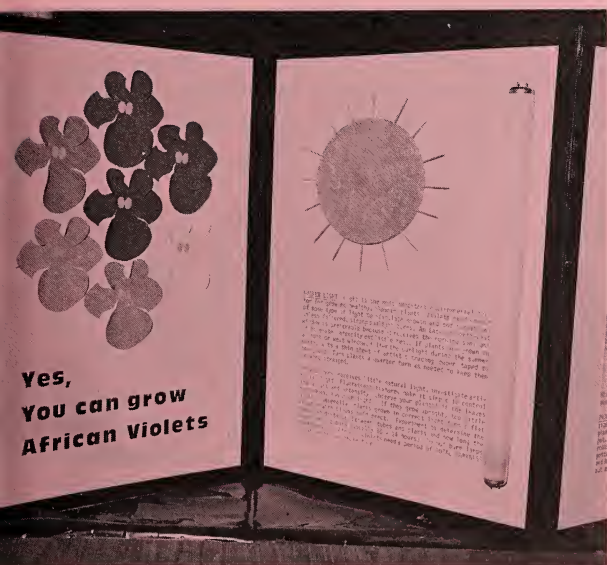
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Mail the above blank to Mrs. Charles Gaines, 5412 Jamieson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109 by March 20, 1977.

See Page 3 to find out how AVSA carries on its business.

EDUCATIONAL TABLES- WHAT THEY'RE ALL ABOUT



Christine D. Leppard
413 Washington Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

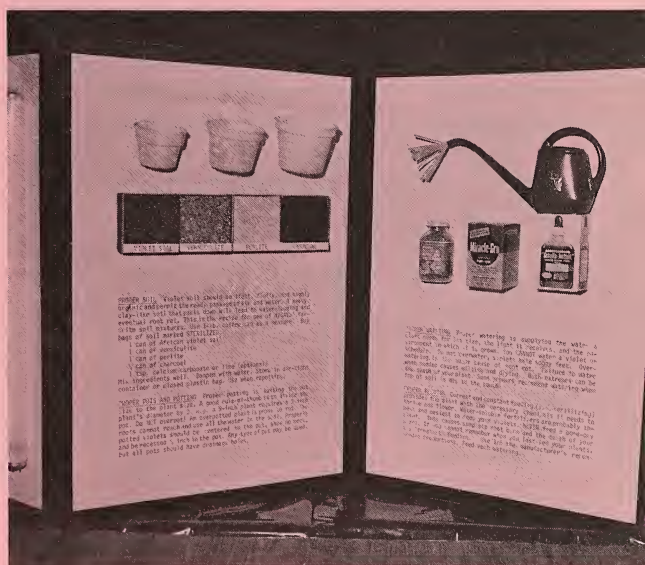
The educational table — who's going to do the educational table this year? Any volunteers? If you have heard that before, maybe this article will be helpful.

First, the educational table is truly meant for the 'man on the street.' He's the one who still wants to know "Are there really yellow violets?" or "Why African violets don't cross with tulips and geraniums?" And, are you ready, "Why doesn't my plant ever bloom?"

Our 'man on the street' has probably had several African violets at one time or another, and they all probably received the same fate — wrapped in a newspaper coffin at the bottom of his garbage can or tossed into the garden. Truth is, African violets are tremendously popular. We all know that huge shipments sell out quickly in grocery stores. But, we also know that most of them are doomed to an unkind fate.

It really is the job of any African violet show to teach, to educate the public who are interested enough to come out to a flower show. Your 'man on the street' is already a bit special since he did come. How can you help him? Several ways.

The educational table can be based on one particular theme. I have done educational tables for several societies just on variegation in African vio-



EDUCATIONAL TABLE—Here's the educational display prepared by Edward Blas for the 1976 New York City AVS show. The first poster said, "Yes, You Can Grow African Violets." Other posters told them how through proper light, proper soil, proper pots and potting, proper watering, proper feeding, proper humidity, proper temperature and ventilation and proper cleansing. The final poster pointed out that AVSA is the largest plant society in the world devoted to a single plant and invited visitors to become members.



lets. I became interested in them when I overheard a guest at the 1971 San Francisco Convention say to another, "Stay away from the variegated plants . . . you know, they put out poisonous gases." That was enough to raise my adrenalin and get me up on my soap box. I prepared an eight-foot display featuring the various kinds of variegated plants. I separated them into three main categories: 'Tommie Lou' type foliage, 'Lilian Jarrett' type foliage, and Champion type foliage. (Champion is the name I gave to describe the type of variegation which is generally white in immature leaves, and gradually turns green in an irregular pattern as the leaves mature. Ethel Champion has hybridized many of these varieties.) I also demonstrated general culture which applies to growing any African violet, paying particular attention to the differences which the variegates require: Light (more hours per day), temperature (cooler — usually the coolest place in your plant area), and fertilizer use (sparing and low in nitrogen.)

The presentation of an educational table should feature a combination of approaches. It is undeniable that the more senses (taste, hearing, sight, touch, smell) you reach, the more likely the lesson is to be retained. Therefore, any educational table should have some printed matter. Big, colorful posters are great. I like to use these at the back of the display, usually taped onto a wall. Do not write too much; outlines and lists are fine. Use BIG letters, neatly done. (A great investment is a master stencil set, a set of pens, and a T-square). Leave ample white space on posters and on the table itself so the eye can rest between lines. Artistically spaced items are much more effective.

The material you choose to display is critical. It is better to display two or three plastic pots than seven or eight; everybody knows pots come in sizes. Do not be tempted to display every possible grooming tool used. You might include a lint brush, a nut pick, tweezers, manicure scissors, a measuring spoon, and a spray bottle for misting. We know that each grower has his favorite tools, but be selective. If in doubt, opt for the simplest approach possible. If there is too much to see, the viewer will stop looking!

Choose outstanding plant material because it will be scrutinized by many more eyes than those of the judges. It should be as clean as a whistle and, hopefully, in bloom. Try to pick up several colors in blossoms and leaves which will enhance the display.

After carefully selecting the material to be included, look it over and eliminate one-fourth of it. One leaf setting with baby plantlets is enough. You do not need four leaves showing small to

larger babies. Choose one nice leaf grown especially for the display. One small container of potting soil, one of vermiculite, one of perlite are enough. Yes, there are many, many other possible soil ingredients; but remember you are planning this display for the 'man on the street.' You are not cleaning up the plant room and displaying everything you find. One kind of fertilizer, not 15. If you overwhelm, you will turn the viewer away. It is better by far to let him be bitten by the "bug" before he learns about all the paraphernalia he needs and the work ahead.

So far you have eye appeal: Clean, bright posters; a few carefully selected items used in general culture; and, most important, nice looking plants. Maybe you are lucky enough to have a seed pod. It is preferable to show a dry seed pod under a magnifying glass than to display a plant with one pod which the public must distinguish from a bud. (Glue some of the seeds and the pod to a card and mount under a magnifying glass. I used a dowell to hold the glass upright.)

Next, you may appeal to the sense of touch. Invite the public to touch the soil . . . to feel how vermiculite is really different from perlite and sand. Kids love to handle things. If you make your educational table the place to touch the soil, to tickle the nose with a brush, to handle a f-u-z-z-y African violet leaf, then the younger audience is more likely to respect the rest of the show.

You appeal to the sense of hearing when a patient member is on duty at the table during the entire show. This descendant of Job will be asked a thousand questions . . . most of them about plants that do not bloom, which window, how much water, about leaves that droop, about repotting. This program will be your spokesman and a spokesman for AVSA and will either inspire the visitors to grow plants and perhaps to join the club, or will merely be another authority figure with a "don't touch, don't bother" attitude.

The problem of smell is quickly resolved. One plant on the table is for sniffing. Do not worry too much if it gets a little broken by enthusiastic noses . . . better one sample plant than a prize show plant. Kids are the most likely to be the sniffers; men are next.

Put the educational table near the front door of the show room! If you are able to welcome and talk to visitors before they see the show, you can point out special features to look for and really whet their curiosity. You can explain how to follow the schedule so that the show is more understandable. Frequently the people with whom you have taken that extra bit of time will come back to chat after seeing the show. Watch for them; they're

your future members!

If it is necessary to put labels on the items on the table, type or neatly letter them — no handwriting. One of the most beautiful educational displays I ever saw was exquisitely simple. It was based on the “10 proper” (i.e. proper watering, proper light, proper fertilizer, proper potting). It demonstrated in one or two sentences each “proper,” combined with simple visual aides. For example, proper light was simply shown by a bright yellow sun and by a two-foot fluorescent light tube glued to the poster board. Fertilizer, by one can of fertilizer. All in all, there were only about 10 uncluttered things showing proper culture of African violets.

Another type of educational table can be based on a particular phase of having a show. One table I saw was all about judging. It had three posters featuring the scale of points in pie-shaped wedges. The next poster enhanced the first poster by explaining what each piece of pie represented. In other words, the 30-point wedge for symmetry was repeated on the second poster with an explanation of what symmetry is, etc. The third poster demonstrated that 50% of the award that a plant receives is based on the plant itself and its cultural condition, and that the other 50% of the award is based on the number of flowers, their color and size. Visitors learned it takes 90 out of 100 points to earn a blue ribbon. The display stressed that the plant with lots of flowers is not necessarily the best plant. Examples of poor symmetry, underpotting, lack of bloom were on the table. (One of my favorite show anecdotes is of a woman who came to our sale table asking if there were any more plants of ‘Poor Symmetry’ for sale.) The difference between merit and competitive judging was also explained in this display.

Another idea for an educational table might be based on the diseases of African violets, but be careful that the table is in a separate room or entry hall. Other ideas feature the publications and materials available from AVSA: slides, the *African Violet Magazine*, yearbook packets, show schedules, culture brochures. Educational tables can feature the miniatures and semiminiatures, Saintpaulia species, or hybridizing.

All educational tables should have a few things in common. They must be attractive to the public. They must cover one or more facts of African violet culture. They should teach something. They must be accessible. Someone must be on duty to answer questions.

Maybe it is only my personal opinion, but I believe more educational tables are spoiled by putting too many things on than too few. Simplicity

is the key.

Judges scoring for the AVSA Standard Show Award should not deduct points if the club has prepared an educational table with a particular theme, rather than on straight culture. The judges’ job is to decide how the theme or idea behind that particular display has been carried out. If the display is only about judging (and this is permissible), then the panel of judges should not deduct points because there are no leaf settings, pots, etc. The one item I believe should always be present is the AVSA culture brochure. This leaflet answers so many questions, and it often reminds the visitor of something else he may want to ask. More new members have joined because of the AVSA culture brochure and because of the promotion it gives at educational tables than from any other single item. Don’t eliminate them.

Give a bit of thought and time to your next educational table. Don’t just go to your plant room and scoop up everything you own. Choose a theme and carry it out simply and neatly.

If you judge an educational exhibit, consider the great amount of time and preparation that went into it. Remember that its creator probably left good show plants home to have room in the car for the educational table display. Remember that the time involved is frequently more than is required for several arrangements. Ask if the club gives an award for the educational table. If not, consider recommending a special award or rosette.

The educational table is a key part of any African violet show. AVSA considers it 10% of the show. When you are asked to help prepare one, be generous with your time and talent. Chances are you will learn more doing the necessary research than you would have believed.

CONGRATULATIONS, NEVA

Our sincere congratulations are extended Mrs. W. F. (Neva) Anderson of St. Louis, MO who has earned the Master Judge Certificate in the National Council of State Garden Clubs. Mrs. Anderson, a past AVSA president and currently serving on the Board of Directors, is the AVSA Publications Chairman and the “Cross Your I’s... and Dot Your T’s” columnist.

USE PIPE CLEANER

If you have trouble keeping rooted leaves upright, use a pipe cleaner, bent in a semi-circle and inserted in the pot in the back of the leaf.

African Violet Society of America, Inc.
31st Annual Convention

APRIL 28, 29, 30, 1977

ST. LOUIS, MO.

CHASE PARK PLAZA HOTEL

CALL FOR 1977 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., will be held Saturday, April 30, 1977 at 9 a.m. at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel for the purpose of electing officers and transacting business that may properly come before the meeting.

CALL FOR 1977 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors meeting will be held at the Chase Park Plaza Hotel Tuesday, April 26, 1977 at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of transacting business that may properly come before the meeting.

Melva B. Nelson, President

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

HOTEL RESERVATION FOR 1977 AVSA CONVENTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

CHASE-PARK PLAZA HOTEL, ST. LOUIS, MO

Mail Reservations to:

ATTENTION: Front Office Manager

Chase-Park Plaza Hotel

212 North Kingshighway Blvd.,

St. Louis, Mo. 63108

Time _____ A.M.

Time _____ A.M.

Arrival Date _____ P.M.

Departure Date _____ P.M.

Name: _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please reserve accommodations as checked below:

Room Rates (add 9½% Mo. Room Tax)

\$25.00 Single ()

\$32.00 Twin or Double ()

\$ 8.00 extra for one roll-away bed added in a room ()

Parking charge: \$1.00 per day per registered guest.

To be eligible for special AVSA Convention rates given above registration must be made on this pink form or photostat of same.

Send this blank plus check to Chase-Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, Mo. 63108.

Reservations for rooms must be received not later than 30 days prior to opening date of Convention, or March 28, 1977, if you desire to receive accommodations available to AVSA Convention Members. These reservations will be held only until 6 P.M. of day of arrival unless check or confirmation of a later date is specified.

AVSA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

April 25-30, 1977

Chase Park Plaza Hotel
St. Louis, MO

Check your status: This is my _____ (first, third, 31st or?) convention.
Individual Member () Judging School Teacher ()
Commercial Member () Honorary Life Member () Lifetime Judge ()
Life Member () Board Member () Judge ()

BE SURE TO BRING YOUR 1977-78 AVSA MEMBERSHIP CARD
Please Print

Mr.
Name Mrs. _____
Miss _____ (last name) (first name) (middle initial)
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

One registration fee for convention shall admit any two members of family residing at same address. Please check how many are desired for meal functions and/or tours. We must know definitely how many to prepare for.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE

Number		Price	Total
_____	For entire convention: Early bird .. \$6.50 After April 11 .. \$8.00		_____
_____	For one day, only: Early bird .. 3.50 After April 11 .. 5.00		_____

MEALS

_____	Thursday Dinner Meeting	9.75	_____
_____	Friday Luncheon Meeting	6.50	_____
_____	Friday Banquet Meeting	11.00	_____
_____	Thursday Teachers Workshop Breakfast (teachers only)	2.50	_____
_____	Friday Commercial Members Workshop Breakfast	5.00	_____
_____	Friday Judges & Exhibitors Workshop Breakfast (for everyone)	2.50	_____

TOURS

_____	A. Tuesday all day - St. Louis City Tour - Lunch included	15.00	_____
_____	B. Wednesday all day - Heritage Homes - Lunch included	17.00	_____
_____	C. Thursday Plaza Frontenac - Shopping - Brunch included	6.00	_____

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO AVSA IN U. S. FUNDS Total Enclosed _____
Signature _____ Date _____

Send reservations not later than April 11, 1977 to Registration Chairman, Mrs. Carl Meister, 4459 Gemini Dr., St. Louis, MO 63128. Reservations will not be honored without remittance. Please assist the committee by making reservations early. Your badge, program and tickets will be ready on your arrival.

R E F U N D S: If circumstances make it necessary to change plans, contact registration chairman before April 18, 1977 and money will be refunded.

CONVENTION SHOW SCHEDULE

THEME: "THIRD TIME AROUND"

CHASE PARK PLAZA HOTEL, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

APRIL 28 - 29, 1977

AMATEUR SECTION

HORTICULTURE DIVISION

Section I Single blossoms

Class

1. Purple, dark blue
2. Light to medium blue
3. Pink
4. Dark pink, coral
5. Red, fuchsia
6. Orchid, lavender
7. White
8. Two-tone, multicolor

Section II Double blossoms

Class

9. Purple, dark blue
10. Light to medium blue
11. Pink
12. Dark pink, coral
13. Red, fuchsia
14. Orchid, lavender
15. White
16. Two-tone, multicolor

Section III Edged blossoms

Class

17. Green, gold, chartreuse
18. Geneva

Section IV Variegated foliage

19. Standard varieties, any type or size of blossom

Section V Miniature and semiminiature (including variegated foliage)

Class

20. Miniature
21. Semiminiature

Section VI Single or double blossom, any foliage

Class

22. Collection of three registered varieties, all of which must be the same type, standard, miniature, semiminiature or trailers. To compete for AVSA Collection awards, gold and purple rosettes, (See rules 5 and 15)

23. Plants in unusual, decorative or novel container. Each exhibitor will be permitted only one entry, consisting of one plant, planted in the container. (See rule 5)

24. New Introductions. (See rule 9)

- A. Seedlings
- B. Sports or mutants

25. Specimen plants

- A. African violet species (such as *S. grotei*, *S. confusa*, etc)
- B. African violet trailers (all types)
- C. Hanging baskets

Section VII Other gesneriads

Class

26. Episcia, gloxinia, etc.
27. Miniature gesneriads (other than African violets) in regular pot or growing in clear glass container. May or may not be decorative, with cover permitted. More than one entry permitted in A or B, but they must be different varieties.
 - A. One plant only
 - B. Two or more plants of the same variety

DESIGN DIVISION

Section VIII Artistic Plantings - All classes in this section must consist of one or more blooming African violet plants removed from the pot, used in a pleasing design with other growing or cut plant material that has the appearance of growing. No artificial fruits, vegetables or foliage permitted. Dried, treated or painted plant material may be used.

Medium green backgrounds, supplied by the staging committee will be used, 24" high, 20" wide, approximately 15" deep unless otherwise stated. No draping permitted unless otherwise stated. Bases and accessories optional unless definitely stated in the class.

Class

28. "The Big Cat Country" - The St. Louis

Zoo has just completed a natural setting for the "Big Cats". This new addition attracts the attention of all ages. An artistic planting incorporating an appropriate animal accessory. Background 30" tall, 20" wide, 15" deep. Draping permitted. Limit of 4 entries.

29. "200 Years of Worship" The architectural beauty of many churches and temples have inspired St. Louisians of all faiths to worship through the years. A planting suggesting reverence or serenity. Limit of 4 entries.
30. "Caves of Missouri" The mountains of the Missouri Ozarks are filled with historic caves surrounded by beautiful and artistically shaped rocks. A planting using one or more rocks. Limit of 4 entries.
31. "Down On The Levee". Strollers are frequently rewarded with beautiful and interesting pieces of driftwood which has been washed onto the levee by high waters from the great Mississippi. A planting using driftwood. Limit of 4 entries.
32. "St. Louis Has It From A to Z". Central geographic location, ideal for industry, close to markets, the area is important in the production of shoes, beer, chemicals and steel. It is the second ranking water and rail transportation in the United States. A planting suggesting one of the industries mentioned. Limit of 4 entries.
33. Terrariums
"Scenic Ozarks". A planting in a transparent covered container. Space provided 30" from floor, 15" deep, 20" wide. Limit of 8 entries.
34. "Dish Gardens". A planting in any type container. No cover. Space provided 30" from floor, 15" deep, 20" wide. Limit of 8 entries.

Section IX Arrangements. Cut African violet blossoms are to be featured unless otherwise stated. Other cut plant material permitted. Treated, dried, painted or other material may be used if designated in the class. No artificial flowers or foliage may be used. Medium green backgrounds 28" tall, 20" wide, approximately 15" deep unless otherwise stated. No draping permitted unless otherwise stated. Accessories permitted.

Class

35. "Art - Small Scale."

- A. A small arrangement using fresh cut material, not to exceed 7½" in any direction, staged against light green background. Limit of 12 entries.

- B. A small arrangement using dried or treated material with fresh African violet blossoms. Not to exceed 7½" in any direction, staged against a light green background. Limit of 12 entries.

Class

36. "Soulard Market" - The Soulard Market, a public place for farmers to bring their fruits and vegetables to sell was built in 1843, enlarged to its present site in 1928. Today it is a landmark and popular with the buyers and sellers for miles around. An arrangement using fruits and vegetables, featuring African violet leaves, no blossoms permitted. Limit of 4 entries.
37. "The Symphony" - St. Louis takes great pride in its symphony orchestra, one of the oldest in the nation, renowned for their stellar performance of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue". An arrangement using "Blue Rhapsody" violet blossoms. Limit of 4 entries.
38. "Theme Of The Show" - An arrangement interpreting the Theme Of The Show, "Third Time Around". Limit of 4 entries.
39. "Historic St. Charles" - Brick streets and gas lights are an important part of the authenticity of the historic section of this old river town. This area is a treat for the antique lover. St. Charles is the home town of Missouri's first state capitol building, fully restored with antiques dating from 1821 to 1826. An arrangement using an antique container. Limit of 4 entries.
40. "In A Japanese Garden" - The 12 acre Japanese Garden situated in the Missouri Botanical Garden which also includes Crane Island and Tea House Island. The island is a gift from Ikebana International St. Louis Chapter, an organization specializing in the art of Japanese Flower Arranging. An arrangement in the Japanese manner. Limit of 4 entries.
41. "1954 Birth Of The Double Pinks" - The double pink violet was introduced at the AVSA Convention held in St. Louis, MO in 1954. An arrangement using double pink African violet blossoms. Limit of 4 entries.
42. "On A Roller Coaster" - At Six Flags Over Mid-America we have the world's tallest, fastest and longest roller coaster, "The Screaming Eagle". He leaves them breathless. An arrangement stressing

rhythm, using medium green background, 30" tall, 20" wide, 15" deep. Draping permitted. Limit of 4 entries.

Section X - Special Exhibits Division

43. "Affiliate Yearbooks". (See rule 18)

44. "Educational Exhibit" (By invitation

only)

45. "AVSA Promotional Exhibit" (See rule 20)

46. Affiliate Magazines or Newsletters (See rule 21)

A. 16 pages or less

B. More than 16 pages

Amateur Division

Rules And Regulations

1. Entries must be made between 2 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, 1977 and between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, 1977.

2. Plants arriving too late to be entered will be shown for exhibition only.

3. Only clean healthy plants will be accepted, and must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months.

4. An exhibitor may enter only one plant of each variety in classes 1 through 21.

5. An exhibitor may enter plants of the same variety in classes 22 and 23 as those entered in classes 1 through 21.

6. Each variety must be correctly named or subject to correction by the classification committee.

7. The Society will afford all possible protection to exhibits, but will not be responsible for any losses.

8. All plants entered in classes 1 through 24 must be single crown, except species and trailers in classes 25A - B - C and trailers in the collection class 22, which may be multiple crown.

9. Any number of seedlings may be entered provided they have been originated by the exhibitor or released rights given in writing, and not previously shown at a convention show.

10. Only blue ribbon winners will be eligible to receive special or AVSA awards.

11. If an entry is not entered by the owner, the name of such person making the entry must be on the back of the entry tag.

12. No flared top pots, supports or collars under foliage will be permitted. Any shape of pots for specimen plants will be accepted. For uniformity, all pots must be covered with dull side of aluminum foil. Exhibitors are to print their names on adhesive tape and attach to the bottom of the foil covered pots.

13. All entries in both amateur and commercial sections must be removed at 12 midnight Friday, and from 7:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, April 30. Show will be closed at 12 midnight Friday.

14. The show will be judged by merit method

of judging, the decision of the judges will be final. Only qualified AVSA judges will be permitted to judge.

15. All amateur AVSA members may enter Class 22 to compete for AVSA Collection (Gold and Purple Rosette Awards). (See Society awards).

16. Any African violet entered in AVSA Collection class, class 22, receiving a blue ribbon is also eligible for any other special award.

17. Only AVSA members in good standing are eligible to enter exhibits in convention shows.

18. All club yearbooks entered in class 43 must be mailed to Mrs. Christine Leppard, 413 Washington Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090 by March 1, 1977, and will be judged by the new scale of points. These books must be no larger than 5½ x 8½ inches, being the same book that all club members receive. Books exceeding the maximum size will be disqualified. Only affiliate organizations are eligible to enter in this class.

19. Anyone desiring to reserve space to enter in the Artistic and/or Arrangement classes, send your blank to Mrs. Charles G. Gaines, 5412 Jamieson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109 by March 1, 1977. Any entry after this date will be accepted only if there is a cancellation.

20. Anyone desiring to reserve space in the AVSA Promotional class send your blank to Mrs. Charles G. Gaines, 5412 Jamieson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109 no later than March 1, 1977. There is a limit of 6 entries to be accepted. After the class is filled, additional entries will be accepted only if there is a cancellation.

21. Affiliate Newsletters or magazines entered in class 46 must be mailed to Mrs. William J. Krogman, 1325 Parkway Drive, Brookfield, WI 53005 by March 1, 1977. Only Affiliates are eligible. Publications submitted shall be identical to those received by members. All issues published between March 1, 1976 and Feb. 28, 1977, shall be submitted. Maximum size 8½ x 11 inches. Copy of scale for judging available from Mrs. Krogman.

THE 1977 CONVENTION SHOW

Society Awards

AVSA Silver Cup — To be awarded to the best registered variety in classes 1 thru 22 in the Amateur Division.

Award of Merit Rosette and \$15.00 cash — to be awarded to the second best registered variety in classes 1 thru 22 in the Amateur Division.

Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10.00 cash — to be awarded to the third best registered variety in classes 1 thru 22 in the Amateur Division.

AVSA Collection of three Registered Different Varieties Awards — Gold Rosette to be given the best collection; Purple Rosette to be given the second best collection in class 22 in the Amateur Show.

Trophies for Commercial Display Tables — Silver Bowl for the best Commercial Display Table. Silver Tray to the exhibitor of the second best Commercial Display Table. 6" Paul Revere Bowl to the exhibitor of the third best Commercial Display Table. Honorable Mention Rosette to the exhibitor of the fourth best Commercial Display Table.

New Introduction Award — A plaque will be awarded to the commercial member having the best new introduction, class 4.

Commercial Silver Cup — To the exhibitor of the best registered variety in classes 1 and 2.

AVSA Collection of three Registered Different Varieties Awards — Gold Rosette to be given the best collection; Purple Rosette to be given the second best collection in class 2 in the Commercial Show.

AVSA Sweepstakes Award — Four Silver Bowls to be awarded to the four AVSA members who won the most blue ribbons in *Specimen* classes in shows sponsored by *Affiliate Organizations* during the calendar year, 1976 from January 1 to December 31 inclusive. In case of a tie the winner will be selected by a drawing of names. Winners will be announced at the annual Friday nite banquet. The President or Secretary of the Affiliate Organization must send to the AVSA Awards Chairman, Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061, by March 1, 1977 the following information: (a) Name of organization, (b) Name and address of member, (c) Number of ribbons won, (d) Dates and places of shows. This is an Amateur Award and not open to members qualifying as Commercial in accordance with Article II, paragraph 2, of the AVSA Bylaws.

Yearbook Awards — Class 43, four awards as follows:

First Prize	\$15.00
Second Prize	10.00
Third Prize	5.00
Fourth Prize	4.00

All yearbooks entered in class 43 must be mailed to Mrs. Christine Leppard, 413 Washington Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090 by March 1, 1977. The 1977 yearbooks will be judged by the revised scale of points published in the *African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors* by Ruth G. Carey, 1975 revision (salmon cover) pages 64-67.

Affiliate Magazines or Newsletters Awards:

Four awards as follows:

A. 16 pages or less: 1st Blue Rosette, 2nd, Red Rosette.

B. More than 16 pages: 1st Blue Rosette, 2nd Red Rosette.

All affiliate magazines or newsletters entered in class 46 must be mailed to Mrs. William J. Krogman, 1325 Parkway Drive, Brookfield, WI 53005 by March 1, 1977. Classes are open to AVSA Affiliates only. Publications submitted shall be identical to those received by members. All issues of a publication released between March 1 and February 28 shall be submitted. Publications exceeding the maximum size of 8½ x 11 inches shall be disqualified.

Standard Show Achievement Award — A special Blue Rosette will be awarded at this convention to the Affiliate Organization that has won the Standard Show Award (Green Rosette) with at least 95 points during the calendar year from January 1 to December 31, 1976.

JUDGE'S WORKSHOP

All questions to be answered at the Judges Workshop at the St. Louis convention on Friday morning should be mailed to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918 no later than April 1, 1977. If you have a specific topic, but no question in particular, please send this information to me. I need to know what would be most helpful to you. Questions received prior to deadline date will be answered first. If time permits, others will be answered.

AMATEUR SHOW --- SPECIAL AWARDS

HORTICULTURE DIVISION

Section I — Specimen plants, single blossoms.

Class 1 — Purple and dark blue: 1st, Ann and Ray Dooley, \$10.00; 2nd, Cavalier African Violet Club, \$5.00.

Class 2 — Light to medium blue: 1st, Florence Garrity, \$10.00; 2nd, AVSA Judges' Council of Northern California, \$5.00.

Class 3 — Pink: 1st, Tampa African Violet Society, \$10.00; 2nd, Edward Bradford, \$5.00.

Class 4 — Dark pink and coral: 1st, Mrs. L. F. Lidiak, \$10.00; 2nd, Mrs. R. E. Hertel, \$5.00.

Class 5 — Red, fuchsia: 1st, Indianapolis African Violet Club, \$10.00; 2nd, Sue Dohm, \$5.00.

Class 6 — Orchid, lavender: 1st, Sylvia Richardson, \$10.00; 2nd, Carolyn Hollingsworth, Hand Painted Pots.

Class 7 — White: 1st, Indianapolis African Violet Club, \$10.00; 2nd, Heart of Texas African Violet Society, \$5.00.

Class 8 — Two-tone, multicolor: 1st, First Austin African Violet Society, \$10.00; 2nd Pied Piper AVC, \$5.00.

Section II — Specimen plants, double blossoms.

Class 9 — Purple, dark blue: 1st, Stim-U-Plant Laboratories, Inc., Plaque and \$25.00.

Class 10 — Light to medium blue: 1st, Indianapolis AVC, \$10.00; 2nd, Robert Sutton Jr., Antique China.

Class 11 — Pink: 1st, Indianapolis AVC, \$10.00; 2nd, Mary S. Garrity, \$5.00.

Class 12 — Dark pink, coral: 1st, Ann Richardson, \$10.00; 2nd, \$5.00.

Class 13 — Red, fuchsia: 1st, Stim-U-Plant Laboratories, Inc., Plaque and \$25.00; 2nd, Lower Connecticut Valley African Violet Society, \$10.00.

Class 14 — Orchid, lavender: 1st, Mr. W. M. Plaster, \$10.00; 2nd, Celine Chase, \$5.00.

Class 15 — White: 1st, Stim-U-Plant Laboratories, Inc., Plaque and \$25.00.

Class 16 — Two-tone, multicolor: 1st, San Francisco African Violet Society, \$10.00; 2nd, Celine Chase, \$5.00.

Section III — Specimen plants, edged blossoms.

Class 17 — Green, gold or chartreuse edged: 1st, Indianapolis African Violet Club, \$10.00.

Class 18 — Geneva edged: 1st, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burton, Antique China; 2nd, Border Cities AVC of Detroit, \$5.00.

Section IV — Specimen plants, variegated foliage.

Class 19 — Standard varieties, any type or size of blossom: 1st, AVS of Greater New York, Inc., \$25.00; 2nd, The Viva La Violets AVC, \$10.00.

Section V — Miniature and Semiminiature (including variegated foliage).

Class 20 — Miniature: 1st, St. Louis Judges' Council, \$15.00; 2nd Rainbow AVC of St. Louis, \$5.00.

Class 21 — Semiminiature: 1st, Mrs. Harold Baker, \$10.00; 2nd, Rainbow AVC of St. Louis, \$5.00.

Section VI — Specimen plants, single or double blossoms, any foliage.

Class 22 — Collection of three different registered varieties, all of which must be the same type, standard, miniature, semiminiature or trailers: 1st, Tube Craft, FloraCart; 2nd, AVS of Philadelphia, \$25.00.

Class 23 — Plants in unusual, decorative or novel containers: 1st, Top Choice African Violet Society, \$10.00; 2nd, Edward Bradford, \$5.00.

Class 24 — New Introductions:

A — Seedlings: 1st, Helen Van Zele, \$10.00; 2nd, Amethyst African violet Club, \$5.00.

B — Sports or mutants: 1st, AVS of Staten Island, \$10.00;

Class 25 — Specimen Plants.

A — African Violet Species (such as *S. Grotei*, *S. confusa*, etc.): 1st, Mabel and Glenn Hudson, Silver.

B — African violet trailers (all types): 1st, Helen Van Zele, \$10.00.

C — Hanging baskets: 1st, Mrs. George Ganaway, Jam Jar.

Section VII — Other gesneriads.

Class 26 — *Episcia*, *gloxinia*, etc.: 1st, Mrs. Percy F. Crane, \$10.00; 2nd, \$5.00.

Class 27 — Miniature gesneriads (other than African violets) in regular pot or growing in clear glass container. May or may not be decorative, with cover permitted. More than one entry permitted in A or B, but they must be different varieties.

A — One plant only: 1st, Normandy African Violet Club, \$5.00.

B — Two or more plants of the same variety: 1st, Ann Riddle, \$5.00.

OTHER AWARDS

Classes 1 thru 8 — Best specimen plant, single blossom: Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs, \$25.00.

Classes 9 thru 16 — Best specimen plant, double blossom: Northern California Council of African Violet Societies, \$25.00.

Class 20 — Best specimen miniature, double pink: Le Chateau AVC, \$5.00.

Class 20 — Best specimen plant, miniature, blue: Mrs. Joan Laske, \$5.00.

Class 20 — Best specimen plant, miniature, variegated: The Viva La Violets AVC, \$10.00.

Classes 20 and 21 — Best registered specimen plant, miniature or semiminiature: Violets After Five AVS, \$20.00.

Classes 1 thru 22 — Best registered variety: Stim-U-Plant Laboratories, Inc., \$50.00 and Plaque.

Classes 1 thru 27 — Sweepstakes in Horticulture: New York City AVS, Silver.

Classes 1 thru 27 — 2nd highest number of blue ribbons in horticulture: Percy F. Crane, \$20.00.

Classes 1 thru 42 — Most blue ribbons won in horticulture and design division: President's award, Mrs. Edward A. Nelson, China.

DESIGNATED PLANT AWARDS

Class 9 — Richter's "Nightshade", Nightshade AVC, \$10.00.

Class 10 — "Blue Belle", Granger Gardens, \$25.00.

Class 11 — "Pink Viceroy", "Pink Granada" or "Pink Electra", Granger Gardens, \$25.00.

Class 15 — "County Belle", Mrs. Charles Gaines, \$10.00.

Class 15 — "Faith", "Eternal Snow" or "Miriam Steel", Granger Gardens, \$25.00.

Class 15 — "Faith", Green Thumb AVC, \$5.00.

Class 16 — "Ruth Carey", "Poodle Top" or class 12, "Jeanmarie", Tinari Greenhouses Awards, Copper Trays, 1st and 2nd.

Class 18 — "Lavender Tempest", Granger Gardens, \$25.00.

Class 18 — "Kansas City Chief", The AVC of Greater Kansas City, \$10.00.

Class 19 — "Kay Russell", class 13, "Christmas Holly" or class 1, "Blue Boy", Inner City AVS, \$10.00.

Class 19 — "Cordelia", Rienhardt's African Violets, Trophy.

Class 19 — "Top Dollar", "Happy Harold" or "Nancy Reagan", Rienhardt's African Violets, Trophy.

Class 20 — "Tiny Ellie", Mrs. Sidney Bogin, Silver Bud Vase.

Class 20 — "Hi-Stepper", class 25B, "Bicentennial Trail" or class 13, "Helene", Lyndon Lyon, \$25.00.

Class 9 — "Hi-Hopes", High Hopes AVC, \$7.50.

Class 16 — "Edith V. Peterson", Edith Peterson, \$10.00.

DESIGN DIVISION

Section VIII — Artistic Plantings.

Class 28 — "The Big Cat Country", 1st, Alma Janus, \$10.00; 2nd, Catherine Carlisle, \$5.00.

Class 29 — "200 Years of Worship": 1st, Vicki and Susan Eрман, \$10.00; 2nd, Viking AVC, \$5.00.

Class 30 — "Caves of Missouri": 1st, Mrs. Jess Stern, \$10.00; 2nd, Florence Gaines, \$5.00.

Class 31 — "Down on the Levee": 1st, Joanne Steffen, \$10.00; 2nd, Erna Holt, \$5.00.

Class 32 — "St. Louis Has It From A to Z": 1st, Mrs. Charles McGrievy, \$10.00; 2nd, Ella Johanning, \$5.00.

Class 33 — Terrariums: "Scenic Ozarks": 1st, "Wm. R. Smith 1st Annual Memorial Award", Edd Stretch Smith, \$10.00; 2nd, Viking African Violet Club, \$5.00.

Class 34 — Dish Gardens: 1st, Union County Chapter of AVSA, \$10.00; 2nd, Ethel Mathis, \$5.00.

Section IX — Arrangements.

Class 35A — "Art-Small Scale": 1st, Mrs. W. F. Anderson, \$10.00; 2nd, Mrs. M. P. McVey, \$5.00; 3rd, Marion Bell, \$5.00.

Class 35B — A small arrangement: 1st, Mrs. W. F. Anderson, \$10.00; 2nd, Diane Peach, \$5.00; 3rd, Barbara Edinger, \$5.00.

Class 36 — "Soulard Market": 1st, Mrs. Dana Gipson, \$10.00; 2nd, Irene Rienhold, \$5.00.

Class 37 — "The Symphony": 1st, Sandra M. Lex, \$10.00; 2nd, Doris Loyet, \$5.00.

Class 38 — "Third Time Around": 1st, Mrs. Edward A. Nelson, \$10.00; 2nd, Violet Stubblefield, \$5.00.

Class 39 — "Historic St. Charles": 1st, Edd Stretch Smith, \$10.00; 2nd, Floretta Willets, \$5.00.

Class 40 — "In a Japanese Garden": 1st, Eunice and Gene Theil, \$10.00; 2nd, Nancy Willets, \$5.00.

Class 41 — "1954 Birth of the Double Pink": 1st, Virginia Hamilton and Lois Russell, \$10.00; 2nd, Roma Wilson, \$5.00.

Class 42 — "On a Roller Coaster": 1st, Patty

Smith and Joan Laske, \$10.00; 2nd, Edith Hoy, \$5.00.

Classes 28 thru 32 — Best artistic planting: Mr. and Mrs. Victor Joseph Kunz, Original Painting; 2nd best, Helen Van Zele, \$5.00.

Classes 35 thru 42 — Best arrangement: Nancy and Floretta Willets, \$10.00; 2nd best, Esther Brewer, \$5.00.

Classes 28 thru 42 — Sweepstakes: The Dixie Moonbeams AVS, Silver; 2nd highest number of blue ribbons, Violets Atlanta, Violet Compote.

Section X — Special Exhibits Division.

Class 43 — Affiliate Yearbooks should not ex-

ceed maximum size, 5½ x 8½ inches: 1st, \$15.00; 2nd, \$10.00; 3rd, \$5.00; 4th, \$4.00.

Class 44 — Educational Exhibit (by invitation only)

Class 45 — AVSA Promotional Exhibit: 1st, Adeline Krogman, \$10.00; 2nd, Celine Chase, \$5.00.

Class 46 — Affiliate Magazines or Newsletters. A — 16 pages or less: 1st, Blue Rosette; 2nd, Red Rosette.

B — More than 16 pages: 1st, Blue Rosette; 2nd, Red Rosette.

Ruth Carey Award for Affiliate Chapter Leadership, Silver.

Commercial Show - Special Awards

Section I — Specimen plants.

Class 1 — New Introductions.

A — Seedlings: 1st, "Win Albright Memorial Award", Mrs. Winfred E. Albright, \$25.00; 2nd, Helen Van Zele, \$10.00.

Classes 1 and 2 — "Helene Galpin Memorial Award", F. Henry Galpin, \$10.00 for the best plant of "Helene".

Classes 1 and 2 — Best single blossom plant:

Crestwood Violetry, Silver.

Classes 1 and 2 — Best geneva edged African Violet: Crestwood Violetry, Silver.

Classes 1 and 2 — Best "Cordelia": Rienhardt's African Violets, \$10.00.

Classes 1 and 2 — Best "Happy Harold", "Top Dollar" or "Nancy Reagan": Rienhardt's African Violets, \$10.00.

Classes 1 and 2 — Sweepstakes: Jimmy Watson, Silver.

Commercial Display Tables - Special Awards

Section II — Display Tables.

Class 3 — Best specimen plant: 1st, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burton, Antique China; 2nd, Ruth Hatch, \$5.00.

Class 4 — Second best new introduction: Helen Van Zele, \$10.00; Third best new introduction: Helen Van Zele, \$5.00.

Classes 3 and 4 — Best horticultural perfection: New York State African Violet Society, Silver.

Enter Your Yearbook!

March 1, 1977, is the deadline for entering your yearbook for AVSA judging. That date will sneak up on you if you don't right now mark it down on your calendar and make sure that the person in your club knows where to send your entry. Please mail two unfolded copies of your entry to:

Mrs. Janet Riemer

14 Pelham Rd.

Kendall Park, NJ 08824

The 1977 yearbooks will be judged as a service project for AVSA by the New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges. Please check Mrs. Carey's coral 1975 revised *Handbook* for specifications on

size and content requirements. The judging will take place early in March, so it is very important that your yearbook arrives no later than March 1, 1977. If you wish a receipt of arrival of your entry, please include a self-addressed postcard which will be returned to you upon the arrival of your entry.

AVSA judges able to attend meetings in Hightstown, New Jersey, who wish to participate are invited to offer their services to the committee. Please write Mrs. Riemer, enclosing a self-addressed envelope for information.

(Photo by Frank Tinari Jr.)



**CARNIVAL
QUEEN**
by Tinari

SYLVAN BLUE by Violets Atlanta

(Photo by Burton)



CROSS YOUR I's . . . and DOT YOUR T's . . .

Mrs. W. F. Anderson
360 Tulip Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119

Are Y O U taking advantage of the printed material AVSA has made available for members?

The *African Violet Master Variety List*, Number 3, is available now (\$3.50 postpaid from the AVSA office). The complete list of all registered cultivars from #1 through #2802 is included. Registrations before 1976 will no longer be published in the *African Violet Magazine* and the complete registration list will not be reprinted in subsequent *MVL* publications. THIS IS A MUST FOR YOUR VIOLET LIBRARY.

Show entry tags printed in violet ink on white stock are available from the AVSA office. For details, see page 14, November 1976 *African Violet Magazine*.

The *Guide Booklet for Affiliate Presidents and AVSA Representatives* is available from the AVSA office (\$1, postpaid). This contains helpful material for any affiliate president and should be in the president's file to be passed on to succeeding presidents. Culture folders *How To Grow African Violets* are available for cost of shipping from the AVSA office. This folder contains an AVSA membership application blank. Use for shows, for commercial sales, give with gift plants, or wherever memberships may be solicited. Please include postage cost when you request these free folders.

TO OUR FOREIGN MEMBERS: Please, when ordering any printed material or when paying membership dues, remit in US funds with a draft or check on a New York, USA bank.

Some members have asked how to get the return address labels with AVSA and the pot of violets logo in violet ink. If interested in information, send me a self addressed, stamped envelope.

MAIN NUTRIENTS

Three main nutrients needed by plants are: Nitrogen, phosphate and potash. Nitrogen gives good color to leaves but does nothing for blooms. Phosphate makes good root growth, and promotes constant blooming and deepens colors. Potash gives flowers a clear lustrous look, and stabilizes growth. Use the fertilizers higher in the first two so as to get good color and root system.



AVSA Emblems

Wear an AVSA emblem with pride that you are a part of the 20,000 member AVSA family.

Affiliates: Do you present the newly elected president with an emblem with chain and gavel attached to be worn during the term of office and passed on to the succeeding president at the installation ceremony? This is a nice tradition for an Affiliate.

STERLING SILVER OR 10K GOLD FILLED

Pin	\$ 6.00
Pin/gavel (for President)	8.00
Charm	6.00
Charm/gavel (for President)	8.00
Tie Tack	6.00
Tie Tack/gavel (for President)	8.00
Earrings/pair	12.00
Bracelet	7.00
Judges' Charm	5.00
Judges' Charm/disc	8.00
Judges' Guard Pin	4.00
Gavel/chain	4.00

14K GOLD

Pin	25.00
Pin/gavel (for President)	35.00
Charm	25.00
Charm/gavel (for President)	35.00
Earrings/pair	40.00
Gavel/chain	13.00
Life Member Pin	30.00
Life Member Tie Tack	30.00

Prices are subject to change should our cost, when reordering, be increased.



YOUR LIBRARY

*Mrs. M. E. Garner
1010 Edgewood S.E.
North Canton, Ohio 44720*

"Necessity is the mother of invention". So goes the famous saying. In an emergency that calls for one to suddenly leave for an unknown period of time, your plants are all left to the care of a completely inexperienced person. They are willing to care for them and you are glad to accept their kindness at this time. You hope for the best and that they will understand the needs of the plants. This was the situation I found myself in this past summer. When I returned home, after a period of six and a half weeks, I found — much to my surprise — that my African violets were doing very well. Other than needing a good grooming — they had been watered and were growing well. (Not like some of my other house plants that were swimming in containers of water.) The reason — WICK WATERING! I had them on top of water wells. They couldn't be over watered. Any excess went down into the well and each plant used just what it needed.

Why not try wick watering? Have a program on it. There is a slide program in the library that can be of great help. Ask for it in plenty of time, so it can be scheduled well in advance of your meeting date. These slide programs are in such demand and must be scheduled several months ahead of the date on which you plan to use it.

Check the June 1976, issue of the AV magazine, starting on page 68, for the complete listing of materials and slide programs available for your use. While planning your year's programs, don't forget to send two copies of your yearbook to Mrs. Christine Leppard, 413 Washington Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090. These should be sent not later than March 1, 1977, unless otherwise notified. With the following guidelines that will be enclosed with every slide program — we ask your cooperation:

GUIDE LINES FOR SLIDE PROGRAMS

1. **TO THE PROJECTIONIST** — Please use a carousel type projector! So you do not have to chew up the edges of each slide by mounting in a frame—instead, they are placed in a slot in the

order they will be shown. Check your projector for good operation.

2. **Check the slides with the commentary before the time comes to present the program.** Have a rehearsal. This will help you know if there are any slides out of place, missing, or damaged.

3. **Study the commentary.** You may want to add more of your own information for some slides and delete commentary on others. This will help you to know the time necessary to present the program. **DON'T RUSH IT!**

4. **Make note of any damaged or lost slides on the comment sheet enclosed with the program and the number found on each slide that should be checked by us.**

5. **Show the program on your scheduled date — or — return immediately as per instructions. DO NOT HOLD OVER —** this keeps other affiliates from receiving the scheduled program on their date.

6. **When packing the slides for return FIRST CLASS MAILING —** check to see that the slides are in correct order. The number is in the upper right hand corner. That the commentary and comment sheets are enclosed. Your cooperation will help us keep these programs in good order so all may enjoy them. **THANK YOU.**

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. E. A. Nelson, AVSA president, expressed her pleasure at learning of AVSA's newest life members, Mrs. Sharon Arendacky, 73 Drummond Crescent, Ft. Erie, Ontario, Canada L2A-1L4, Clifford G. Webb, 920 S. 27th Street, Temple, TX and Mrs. Henry Mills, P. O. Box 414, Tallahassee, FL.

"We are delighted at our growing list of Life Members," Mrs. Nelson said. "We are indeed glad to welcome Mrs. Arendacky, Mr. Webb and Mrs. Mills into this AVSA group."

Please send **COMING EVENTS** to the Editor—not to the Knoxville office!

**HOUSE
OF
VIOLETS**

(Photos by Grower)

BEAUMONT



GREAT MUSIC





THE
PARSON'S
SERIES

By

Rev. Charles Blades

(Photos by Grower)

LYNN
RENEE'

FAITH



What she learned through trial and error

Effects of Lights on Trailing Violets

Mrs. Edward Baxter
2135 Las Lomitas Dr.
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

I would like to tell you about the effects of light on my trailing violets that I have discovered through trial and error.

My first trailer was 'Violet Trail'. The sight of it, loaded with bloom in an African violet advertisement captured my attention and I promptly sent my check and eagerly awaited the mailman's arrival for a month. When it finally arrived in a 2½-inch pot, I fell in love with the foliage. Since I did not have lights at the time, I placed it in a south window above my kitchen sink and eagerly waited for the blooms I was sure were to come.

Well, she just sat and sat and then the leaves began to curl under and it did not look as pretty as it did on arrival. From reading my AV magazines I thought maybe I was giving her too much light. So I moved it to another part of the kitchen with less light. Still nothing. 'Violet Trail' stubbornly refused to grow or do anything. Just sat there looking very unhappy. I was very unhappy with her, too. But I could not bring myself to throw her in the trash can. And as I am a stubborn person myself, I was determined to make her grow and bloom.

By this time, months and months had passed as I was busy with the rest of my violets that rewarded me with lots of bloom. I did everything I could think of for 'Violet Trail' over a period of a year and a half. I had tried it everywhere in my house. It finally grew a little but nothing like what it was supposed to do.

My mother got a small light set-up and I took my trailer over to her house and put it under her lights. 'Violet Trail' perked up right away and started to grow. She had one main trunk and three small ones starting from the bottom. I was tickled pink! Finally I had found something that my unhappy plant liked.

But that plant had a surprise in store for me! After about two months, it stopped growing again, leaves began to curl under so much that they looked almost rolled together. I felt like crying. I did not know what to do with it anymore. She was on the same fertilizing and potting routine as my other blooming plants.

So I brought her back to my house and stuck her back in my south window again. I was constantly pinching off curled leaves to allow more light to reach the small crowns at the bottom. But it did no good.

By this time I had gotten my own light set-up

and one day while potting some of my other violets, I took 'Violet Trail' and cut off the main trunk to root in vermiculite and repotted the rest of the plant. I staked the three bottom trunks apart so that light could reach all evenly, and using my standard procedure, watered it with vitimin and put it on my lowest shelf under my Gro-light in my living room. It is about two feet from the light.

To make a long story short, 'Violet Trail' finally looks like she is supposed to. The leaves are growing flat and even and it is finally beginning to be a pretty plant. Two small suckers are growing where I cut the main trunk and tho I do not have it in bloom yet, I think (hope?) I will when its roots fill the pot, I am convinced, at least, for me anyway, that too much light caused the leaves to curl under.

In the meantime, I ordered another trailer, 'Mysterium', from Fischer Greenhouses. It arrived with buds which promptly fell off due to shock. This was last summer. And so far it has not produced more buds but it has grown, is a really pretty plant and does not seem to be as fussy about light as 'Violet Trail'. I did have it under my lights but now it is in my west window and seems to do well in either place.

I ordered leaves of 'Seventh Heaven', also another trailer, from one of the growers listed in this magazine, planted them in my standard vermiculite mixture and they were up in no time. And the other day when shifting young plants from 2½-inch pots to 3½-inch ones I found buds on my young plants of 'Seventh Heaven'! The bloom on this one is supposed to be almost two inches and I am really anxious to see them.

These plants are in my greenhouse and I will have to wait a little longer before I can report on the effects of light on them as I have not had my greenhouse very long and I have much to learn. How about some of you that have had a greenhouse for a while? I seldom see an article in this magazine on greenhouse growing and I am sure that it would help a lot of other people. It is much easier to learn from someone else's experience than to spend months making your own mistakes.

I have not been growing African violets long enough to compile a list of 25 favorite ones as requested in this magazine, but before I close this I must tell you about my favorite performer so far.

It is 'Strawberry Shortcake.' I have had it for a year and in all that time it has only been out of bloom for two weeks. Tho the blooms (double pink), are not large, it seems to be always in bloom and that is why I love it. Young plants grown from a leaf often bloom in a 2½-pot when not even three inches across. And it grows just as well, if not better, in natural light as it does under the Gro-lights. I repotted my big plant while it was blooming and it just kept right on blooming. Twice last summer it was in such heavy bloom that

you could not even see the center leaves. Those kind of bloomers will always be my first love.

I have so much to learn about the growth and care of African violets. I enjoy and learn a lot from this magazine. I only wish that it were larger. And I would like to see more articles about growing and caring for AV's in it, so please write your experiences and submit them. If I can do it, anyone can. Why not sit down right now and try and maybe you will help someone else learn to care for the beautiful African violets. Good luck!

A Design Workshop

Mrs. W. F. Anderson
360 Tulip Dr.,
St. Louis, MO 63119

The Metropolitan St. Louis African Violet Society sponsored a design workshop as a special project during the summer when the society is on vacation from regular meetings. Arrangements were made to hold sessions on five successive Tuesdays in the Museum Building at the Missouri Botanical Garden where regular society meetings are held. Long work tables and the screen for viewing slides were provided by the Garden, and we were permitted to bring a brown bag lunch. Interested members paid a nominal fee in advance.

This was a sharing experience. Twenty-three members participated. The group's experience ranged from members who had never tried to make an arrangement to several who had won blue ribbons and special awards in local and convention shows. Some had taken arrangement lessons including courses in Japanese arranging. Some had National Council flower show school training.

At the first session each person received a basic kit of materials including pin holders in two sizes, wire, floral tape in two colors, and floral clay. Each participant received printed notes which included general notes on arranging, special notes covering design elements and principles, the scales of points to be used, design definitions, and a calendar for the session which included the assignment of design element and principle to be studied; the topic for demonstration; and the class schedule for the day.

Five sessions were planned from 9:30 a.m. until about 3 p.m. with a lunch break and chit-chat time. A simple schedule of classes was compiled and, to save printing cost, the rules in our latest show schedule were followed. At each session different members of the group served as leaders for the lecture, demonstration, and analysis and suggestion period.

Lectures covered the six elements and six principles of design. Demonstrations were on special mechanics for using weathered wood; how to make a container; how to make an artistic planting using weathered wood; creating an arrangement stressing rhythm; designs for small arrangements; dish garden; terrarium; and underwater arrangement. Information covered how to condition plant material. At two sessions arrangement slide programs were shown and also a collection of slides from the design division of our local show and convention shows. The commentaries provided helpful information.

For every session, members brought entries with a card listing material used. Lectures, demonstrations and slide programs were presented in the morning. After the lunch break, the exhibits were analyzed and each exhibitor had an opportunity to explain materials and methods used and to ask questions about his problems in making the design.

This was truly a delightful learning and sharing experience. As usual, whenever violet growers gather, there was an exchange of violet plants and leaves and, in this instance, there was an exchange of house plant and garden material especially for use with violets in design classes.

A nice compliment at the closing meeting expressed the desire that sessions could continue on a monthly basis. This reflects the group's enthusiasm demonstrated at every session. We highly recommend such a project. Try it! You'll like it.

CUT YOUR COST

Instead of buying the milled sphagnum, which is expensive, buy the coarse — then put it through your meat grinder. Takes a little effort but cuts cost in half.

BEST
NEW
INTRODUCTION
by
NONDISPLAY
COMMERCIALS
EXHIBITED
BY
JEAN
DOLAN

Fredette's
SUGAR
BLUES



(Photo by Burton)

PRETTY POLLY by Fredette



(Photo by grower)



Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

*Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chr. Miniature & Semimini Class
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561*

This is the time of the year that we get the most pleasure from our beautiful African violets. Winter never seems to invade the corners of the rooms where they show their loveliness. If this be January, can the spring shows be far behind? Now is the time to take stock of which miniatures and semiminiatures have given us the most satisfaction and groom them for a show.

Baby, or secondary leaves, those smaller than the row above, should be removed. Don't bemoan them. They root very readily and in no time, will be giving you nice little plantlets. Their removal may leave a small neck, which should be scraped and left to dry and callous for 15 or 20 minutes. New roots will spring from there, when the plant is repotted and set lower in the pot. Don't forget to take off a corresponding amount of roots, to keep the plant in balance.

All yellowed and marred leaves should also be removed unless it will spoil the symmetry of the plant. Symmetry gets 30 points in scoring and it is sometimes wiser to leave a bad leaf alone and only lose a point. Small plastic picks can be used to properly space the leaves. This should only be done when the plant is in need of watering so that the leaves will be less brittle and less prone to snap off.

Dead blossoms should be clipped off close to the stem. All spent peduncles (main stem of the bloom cluster) should be cut, not pulled, leaving ¼" of a stem stub. The stub will dry up and new buds that are forming, will not be disturbed.

From now until showtime, consistent care will pay off. Check often for suckers and remove them before they distort the symmetry of the plant. A sucker is four leaves, coming up at the axils between the leaves or from the bottom of the plant, that shows no evidence of a bud. Make sure that your plant doesn't have buds with leaves attached and mistake that for a sucker.

The plants should be spaced for good air circulation, brushed and washed at least every other week. Keep up the humidity (for bloom), by pouring hot water on the trays or misting often. Don't forget to feed with ¼ tsp. to a gallon of water, with every watering and leach with plain water, every third or fourth watering.

The miniature and semiminiature trailers should

have all yellowed and marred leaves removed. Bare stems should be pruned and a minimum of three crowns (with one main stem) should be allowed to grow. Older varieties, with a tendency to yellowing leaves, can be put at the ends of the tubes or in daylight.

If you continue a planned consistent program like the above, you should be rewarded with healthy blooming plants at showtime.

The 1975 Miniature and Semiminiature Variety and Culture list is available from me at \$2.00. Please make check or money order out to AVSA. The 1976 supplements are available at no charge. They will be sent with list orders. If you just want the supplement, please send a large self-addressed stamped envelope.

LILA MILLS GIVEN LIFE MEMBERSHIP

To show their appreciation to Mrs. Henry C. (Lila) Mills for her many years of service and her untiring efforts with African violets, the Tallahassee AVS presented her with an AVSA Life Membership at their annual Christmas party and installation service.

Mrs. Mills was the organizer of the Tallahassee AVS and has served as its president for six years at different times during its 13-year history. She is active in AVSA and the Dixie AVS.

12-YEAR OLD IS AV GROWER

Kaylee Richardson of 3750 Childress, Houston, TX 77005 is only 12-years old—but she's an ardent African violet grower.

Kaylee's collection of African violets numbers more than 250 plants and she's truly an authority on their care and propagation, according to an AVSA member, Mrs. Calder Rice.

Kaylee tends to her plants by herself and gives them plenty of "tender, loving care." She's an honor student in her first year at junior high school.

Wick Watering in Vermiculite - My Way of Growing Happy Violets

Mrs. Rebecca Felber
P. O. Box 278
Greentown, Ohio 44630

After enjoying the newest African Violet Magazine and reading the request for sharing experiences, I would like to tell you about how I grow African violets, what success and failures I've had and just how I decided to use vermiculite as the only growing medium and water by wick.

My grandma was the first person I knew who ever grew violets. What a thrill it was to enter her hall and see her planter full of huge, multi-crowned African violets! She said she was always giving the plants away to her admiring friends. Grandma gave her last one to me when I was only seven and I loved it to death - - literally!

The "Saintpaulia-bug" really stung me after my husband and I were married, three and one half years ago. I brought about 12 beautiful plants, all from Granger Gardens, with us to our small apartment. They quickly found homes on window sills, and tables but continued, of course, to multiply.

My handy new husband quickly learned to appreciate African violets and built the first of what was to become a series of tiered shelves. This first two-shelfed tier was equipped with 2 single fixtures containing Gro-Lux lamps. It was at this time I joined the African Violet Society of America, Inc. and through the magazine, met a very good violet friend, Flora Stevens. From both Flora and the magazine I have learned much.

With plants continually on the increase, new ways of growing had to be found. Especially with nearly one hundred plants plus rooting leaves to care for and our first child due any day! Up until this time, I grew violets in the conventional manner with sterilized soil, watering from top when needed. I had not experienced any problems except with these springtails that kept plaguing my plants. How was my poor husband to care for all these African violets with "Mom" in the hospital and how was "Mom" ever going to care for them all with a babe in arms?

Fortunately, I had seen an article in the African Violet Magazine about wick watering. It was worth a try to simplify the care of my plants. And after a few weeks, my first attempt at wick watering seemed to be successful.

Today, after two children and three years of experimentation, I've found a simple, less time consuming method of growing huge, floriferous plants that are a thrill to care for. It works for me, maybe it can work for you. The following is an

explanation of how I grow plants in vermiculite, by wick watering and under fluorescent lamps equipped with timers.

I want to explain why I use vermiculite as a growing medium. First, vermiculite harbors no pests to my knowledge; therefore soil diseases and minor pests, such as those springtails that I had been bothered with, do not exist. Vermiculite is clean and easy to work with, no mixing proportions or sterilization is required! Vermiculite is also very inexpensive and can be purchased in huge quantities. Finally, it goes a long way and, if you are very economical, it can be washed and reused.

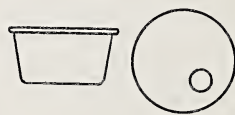
Here is a list of materials needed for growing violets in wick pots.

1. Pots, I prefer plastic.
2. Suitable wicking (I use an all purpose utility cord made of polyester nylon; however yarn, nylon hosiery strips & rope can also be used.)
3. Small margarine bowls and lids to act as reservoirs.
4. Vermiculite



Plastic pot of
vermiculite

I first start my fresh cut leaves in vermiculite in a tray, pot or pan depending on what I have handy. Vermiculite is dampened first and the leaf stem inserted. After plantlets appear, they are allowed to grow 2 - 3 inches high before separating them. I keep only the healthiest and strongest among them. They are each potted in a 2½-inch pot of vermiculite without a wick and then placed on a tray of dampened vermiculite.



margarine bowl with
hole cut in lid

They are watered generally every other day (in winter due to our dry oil heat) with ¼ teaspoon Peter's Special fertilizer to one gallon room temperature water. Be sure that if you have a softener on your water, you use only water straight from the well as softened water is death to plants.



wicking

When the violets develop to the stage when they are large enough for 3½-inch pots, and are constant bloomers, the young plants are moved to wick pots. The first thing to remember in shifting pots is to have everything prepared so the plants will not be too disturbed and

suffer any shock. I have followed this procedure for all my plants, many times, and I've never had a blooming plant even drop a bud due to repotting!

Prepare the pots by laying a strip of wicking across the inside bottom of the pot. I use strips about 5 inches long. Next, using dampened vermiculite, line the pots, both sides and bottom with the vermiculite. Gently shake the violet loose from the small pot, groom plant if needed, and



Insert Wicking

place in prepared pot. Carefully add vermiculite as needed to sides and beneath leaves. Take special care so as not to press vermiculite down too much.

Water with clear water and add additional vermiculite if necessary, never packing it down. Finally, fill margarine bowl with a dilute solution of fertilizer, cut a hole large enough to punch wick through lid and set newly potted violet on top of bowl.

There now, you should have a very happy African violet who will suffer little or no shock! You will probably find as I have that plants grown in this manner will need fresh vermiculite every three to six months. To add fresh vermiculite, simply dampen plant with clear water, shake plant loose from pot and



place slightly dampened vermiculite around plant. It is a good idea to water with clear water from the top occasionally to keep fertilizer deposits to a minimum.

Using this method, my plants really grow very quickly into luscious, large plants with beautiful foliage and huge blooms. Daily check-ups, grooming, and frequent warm water mistings to control humidity, are a must.

I have never tried this way of culture with miniatures or any other type of plant. However, my friend, Flora Stevens, has reported success with vermiculite in growing many other kinds of plants.

Want to switch a plant grown in soil to vermiculite? You can do it, although the plant may suffer a temporary setback. To do this switching from soil to vermiculite requires using the same procedure except it is necessary to gently crumble some of the soil away from the root ball and then place in a fresh, prepared pot of vermiculite. Be sure to provide extra humidity and care for a plant undergoing a switch in growing mediums until a new type of root system is established.

Now, to complete this method, we have two, three-tiered units containing double, shielded 40-watt lamps, one cool white and one Gro-Lux. I grow my plants 6 - 8 inches below the lamps for 10 - 12 hours daily, depending on the season. This gives them the 12 - 14 hours of their necessary dark period so vital to growth. Occasionally, I do foliar feed my plants, drenching the leaves from beneath, just before the lamps switch off. This seems to greatly improve the leaf color as well as size and texture.

Fluorescent lighting as well as growing methods require much experimentation to find just what is right for your individual plants. This artificial lighting combined with the general care and culture produces African violets that bloom constantly and are a source of great beauty and happiness in our home. So good for the little ones as well as for the spirit to share the joy and care these plants bring.

And to close, I want to thank my dear husband for his patience, concern, love and talents, my friend, Flora Stevens, and the AVSA for all their help and encouragement.

I do hope my experiences can help someone with their problems and I would like to hear from anyone who wants to write! Good luck and good growing!



POROUS SOIL

African violets prefer porous soil. This type soil drains well, letting oxygen reach the roots.

Over-Fertilizing And Its Results

Mrs. Mary LaClair
RD 1, Youngs Road
Vernon, NY 13470

Are there any two violeteers who fertilize the same? My experience would say no. I'm sure we have all met those who are successful with violets and yet 'say' that they don't fertilize at all. Then there are some who fertilize once every six months, some who follow a two-month program, some a two-week schedule, and, of course, the more up-to-daters, who use a weak solution every time they water.

At one time or another I have fallen into most all of these categories and I would like to share my experiences with you. We used to have a variety of many different house plants, which included just one lonesome African violet. Who wanted more than one of those temperamental, hard-to-grow things around the house? This was, of course, before the present population of nearly 200 wonderful African violets that are in the house — and may I add — to stay!

And to think it all revolved around my lesson in fertilizing!

Here is my story:

Back in the days of my foliage plant "jungle" nothing got fertilized — small children in the house — who needed more dangerous stuff around? When the plants seemed to want something, out came all the "old wives tales" and they got doused with cold tea, smelly old eggshell water, coffee grounds and cigar ashes. The poor lonesome violet just sat there and put up with all this treatment and struggled to put forth a blossom or two once or twice a year. Poor thing! She was so patient with me hoping someday her mistress would wake up; or some kind soul would enter upon the scene and enlighten me. Then one day one of my 'plant' aunts came in and in assessing my greenery asked how often I fertilized. "What!?" says I. "Well", says she, "EVERYTHING likes a little food now and then, even plants."

"Why don't I try it?" says she, "once every two weeks in the winter time but make sure you put the can well out of little one's reach." "O.K., sounds all right", says I, "I'll give it a try."

A can of fertilizer was purchased and the plants, when I could keep track of the calendar, got one dose of food every two weeks, and, of course, waterings in between with clear water. ALL of the plants seemed to flourish with thanks and the violet was becoming more active at blos-



Here are the two plant stands Mary LaClair has filled with lovely African violets... after she learned her lesson of over-fertilizing. The top stand was purchased by her husband to take care of her violets and the bottom photo shows the stand she won from the Utica AVS. Her plant room is just one blaze of color.



soming, and more enjoyable. Sometimes I wondered how come I spent so much time growing plants that didn't even make an effort to bloom.

Then it came time to move and the plant collection had to be sacrificed. It was not long before I decided a house was not a home to me without plants. My loving spouse, knowing there was a shortage of windowsill space, obligingly made a double hook affair to hold two glass shelves up at one window. And when it came time to purchase the plants - you guessed it - they were violets! A selection of four small windowsill varieties (now called semiminiatures) was made at a greenhouse that had a special section devoted just to African violets. And what a section; the rainbow of color was a sight to behold! Of course, I just had to inquire about their system of fertilizing. I left with

my precious plants and a new can of fertilizer which bore directions for the much weaker every-time-you-water solution. This system worked just fine for now. There was continuous bloom at my window. Looking out at a blanket of snow thru the confusion of pink, white, and blue blooms is enough to give anyone violetitis! It was amazing! I think even the man of the house was bitten when he suggested I actually buy something (for myself) — a lighted plant stand to accommodate some more of those beauties. Using the excuse that he had found something his little woman could do well he even helped re-arrange furniture and even whole rooms so that the plant stand would have its proper place in the house. He is now in the process of finishing off a room upstairs to make up for the lost bedroom; which I now call my Indoor Garden Room. (It's really an old off the kitchen pantry that would have made for a very cramped bedroom anyway). Needless to say as the plant stand became full, my enthusiasm mounted.

That is when my trouble started. I had been using the every time you water method of feeding; but previously I had given them a boost only every other week. So now when I wanted to give them a boost or do a little something extra for the plants, I would add a little extra fertilizer to the water thinking that if a little is good, a little more would be better and I would have dynamic violets! In measuring, with enthusiasm in the way, it was soon easy to forget which was the regular amount and which was the so-called boost amount. Believe me this is NOT the way to do something extra FOR them. It soon became evident that the plants were no longer doing well or looking well; and enthusiasm gave way to dampened spirits. I had a friend, a former violeteer, come over and advise me on my problem. She said it looked like the beginnings of a mite infestation to her, some of them she said didn't look like they would recover even with treatment. I was aghast! It could be mite, it's true; the centers were bunching and distorted. More mature leaves seemed to be at a standstill. But the centers were still growing, which led me to question the diagnosis.

Soon I had some of the worst ones packaged in clear plastic, just in case, and was back at the greenhouse where the original four were purchased. With the plants still in the car, just in case, the problem was presented. Soon an investigation was underway. The leaves were a crisp, small rosette on top of the pot on the miniatures. Some of the standards were twisted and distorted. The centers were growing in so fast they were pushing their way out before the older ones had made room for them — in total they looked a bit cabbage-y. The plants got knocked out of their pots during the diagnosis - which revealed tough brown roots instead of healthy white roots as they should

have been. Yup! It began to look like a case of — FERTILIZER BURN! Ugh! Now what to do?

My plant doctor wisely advised taking them out of the fertilizer loaded soil, severely breaking off the burned roots and rerooting in a bland medium — water or vermiculite — in hopes the plant would use up the the quantity of food stored in its system to make new roots, thereby slowing down the too rapid center growth which was causing distortion. The repotting procedure took days and for a while all struggled along. It was also a struggle for myself to watch them trying to make a comeback from my carelessness when all I wanted to do was do something extra for them.

Now it would be a nice ending if I could say that all plants recovered; but they didn't. The mini's especially could not pull through. In the meantime I had won another plant stand from the Utica African Violet Society raffle. Why give up now . . . after all I had another plant stand to fill and we are supposed to learn from our mistakes, aren't we? The joining of the club and the exchange of leaves and raffle of plants at the meeting helped to make up for my losses and re-spark my enthusiasm.

At the meetings planning so far ahead for a SHOW seemed a lot to me and didn't even think I'd have a thing to enter. Well D-Day came and I managed to take 19 plants to act as show fillers. They were mostly young plants as it took awhile to get re-established. It wouldn't be much of a show if only the sure fire winners entered, would it? I drive 20 miles one way to go to the African Violet Society meetings and I have only regretted the one meeting I missed. No one could have been more pleased than I when I discovered nine blue ribbons and five seconds! One of those blue ribbons went to a "hopeless case" that my first advisor suggested get discarded and it was one of only a few that survived. Some of the plants came back from the show with judges notations that they needed feeding. In an effort to correct something it's easy to go a little too far the other way and takes a while to get straightened out again. Giving your plants an extra ration of plant food is NOT doing something nice for them. Over-fertilizing does not give you dynamic plants — it gives you sick ones. Do fertilize, but be exact-everytime.

You too can have some of these prized blue ribbons — all you have to do is take the initiative to enter a show. I strongly suggest you seek out your nearest violet club and JOIN IT!

USE HERBICIDES

Herbicides are used to control plant pests. Insecticides have their effect on insects. The term pesticide applies to any chemical agent that kills pests or controls their population. Miticides strike at mites, naturally.

BEGINNER'S COLUMN



Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson
RR# 1, Box 70
Tavares, Florida 32778

COLLAR IT!

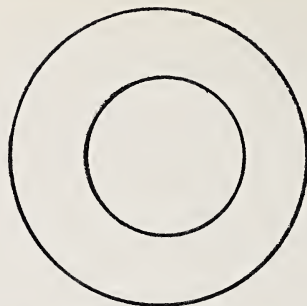
"As the twig is bent, so grows the child." applies to growing good-looking healthy plants. Right from the beginning, as soon as the plant has enough leaves to hold a collar, it should have one if it shows the slightest tendency to hug the pot. A collar is a device which is used to cause the leaves of the plant to go in the desired direction, i.e., flat and symmetrical. A collar will help you as you easily see what is going on and correct it. It will also protect the leaves from being cut by too sharp a pot edge. Should you see a leaf going off in an odd direction (unlike the spokes of a wheel), you can urge it to go where it should be by simply gently pushing it a little bit at a time toward where it belongs by means of partially inserting a toothpick in the soil next to it for a week or so and then again giving it another push and another until it is where it should be.

Since 30 points are for symmetry in the scale of points for judging specimen plants you can see how important symmetry is but aside from that, your plant will look so much prettier even without blossoms.

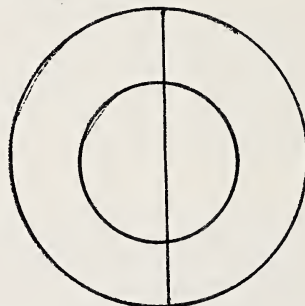
There is another time when you will want to use a collar and that is when you are moving or when you take it to a show. It will protect the plant from any jars if you make it a little larger than the diameter of the plant.

Have a look in the *African Violet Magazine* for ads for collars. There are many types. Some you will like better than others. I prefer the commercial ones better than the home-made ones because they allow better circulation of air around the plant. I do wish that small ones were sold but since they aren't, here is how you can make them. Take a plate with a diameter a little larger than your plant. Place it face down on a piece of plasticized cardboard such as a milk carton and mark a circle.

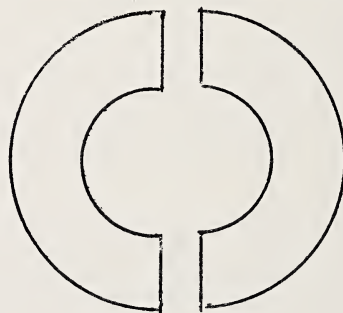
Make a smaller circle inside a bit smaller than



your pot top. Now draw a line exactly through the middle of both circles.



Cut larger circle, cut in half, cut inner line and end with two semicircles which you will place on



top of the pot and under the leaves toward one another.

Avoid wetting the collar when watering the plant.

All collars must be removed when a plant is presented to the Classification Chairman at a show.

DO YOU KNOW

Where 'Fandango', 'Ravencrest', 'Navy Bouquet', 'Sweetheart Roses', Granger's 'Granada' and 'Purple Choice' may be obtained? If you do write to Dorothy Harris, 3539 W. 41st Place, Tulsa, OK 74107.

REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

The following registrations have been received during the period from July 31, 1976 through Oct. 1, 1976.

FIRST SHOW 2877 - W 23 d S 8/9/76

GRANDSON 2878 - R 23 d S 8/9/76

Arthur F. Hill, 1468 Ponderosa, Fullerton, CA 92635

PINK LEMONAID 2879 - PX 239 sf L 8/17/76

PINK MINK 2880 - P 239 d L 8/17/76

PIZZAZZ 2881 - L-PX 23 s S 8/17/76

Mr. Gene Thiel, 100 Fletcher Dr., Collinsville, IL 62234

BICENTENNIAL TRAIL 2882 - D-P 2 dc S 8/23/76

CHEROKEE FIRE 2883 - L-r 27 dc S 8/23/76

CHRISTI LOVE 2884 - L-p 5 dc S 8/23/76

HELENE 2885 - P-R 2 dc S 8/23/76

MAGIC SPLENDOR 2886 - L-BW-E 23 dc S 8/23/76

SWEET HONESTY 2887 - D-P 57 dc S 8/23/76

TINY TOT 2888 - WP 2 dc M 8/23/76

Lyndon Lyon, 14 Mutchler St., Dolgeville, NY 13329

EVELYN BEAIRD 2889 - OW-E 359 s-df S 9/13/76

Judith S. Richey, 3318 O'Henry Dr., Garland TX 75042

BALLET ANNA 2890 - M-PX 2 sf S 9/20/76

BALLET CHRISTINA 2891 - M-B s&df S 9/20/76

BALLET ERICA 2892 - V 35 s&s-df S 9/20/76

BALLET EVA 2893 - D-OX 3 s-d S 9/20/76

BALLET HEIDI 2894 - VX 3 s S 9/20/76

BALLET HELGA 2895 - L-V 3 s-d S 9/20/76

BALLET INGE 2896 - D-V 35 sf S 9/20/76

BALLET KARLA 2897 - VX 25 sf S 9/20/76

BALLET LISA 2898 - L-V 2 sf S 9/20/76

BALLET MARTA 2899 - VX 2 s&s-df S 9/20/76

BALLET META 3000 - V 35 s S 9/20/76

BALLET ULLI 3001 - V 25 sf S 9/20/76

Geo. J. Ball, Inc., P. O. Box 335, West Chicago, IL 60185

CAROL 3002 - O-P 35 df S 9/20/76

GLEN H 3003 - D-B 29 dc S 9/20/76

JASON 3004 - D-P 35 df S 9/20/76

LITTLE JIM 3005 - M-P 29 d S-M 9/20/76

LITTLE RED 3006 - R 3 s M 9/20/76

MARK 3007 - D-R 35 df S 9/20/76

SEA BREEZE 3008 - VWC or V 3 d L 9/20/76

Mr. Max Maas, 870 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ

ARPEGGE MINUET 3009 - P 79 df S 9/22/76

Mrs. Arthur Belanger, 140 Howie Ave., Warwick, RI 02888

LEDLEY COX 3010 - VW-E 2 d L 9/27/76

Mrs. J. G. Barnhill Sr., 1108 12th St., Midfield, AL 35228

NEW YEAR'S DAY 3011 - WL-P 39 d S-M 9/30/76

SAINTSMARYS 3012 - WO-E 57 dc S 9/30/76

Donald R. Maness, 3644 St. Marys Ln., Normandy, MO 63121

MAAS' VARIEGATED GORGEOUS 3013 - WR 27 d S 10/1/76

Hilton Dahlia Farm, 870 Mountain Ave., Springfield, NJ

RESERVATIONS

WHITE ELF SPORT Mrs. Robert M. McGill, P. O. Box 206, Jackson, LA 70748 9/30/76

LADY OF LOVE * MARY'S LOVE Mary M. Mahen, 326 Big Bend, Valley Park, MO 63088 9/30/76

ARPEGGE BOUQUET Mrs. A. Belanger, 140 Howie Ave., Warwick, RI 02888 9/24/76

CHANGES

REED'S PICCADILLY to PICK-A-DILLY

PINK SNOW 2307 LP 3 df S 3/29/76 has been changed to REED'S PINK SNOW

Please make these changes on your registration

lists.

CORRECTIONS

SHARRON LYNN, Mr. Whiffen's name was misspelled.

Reservations ABBY * DOLLY * RACHEL should be BALLET ABBY * BALLET DOLLY * and BALLET RACHEL. Sorry about these errors.

Affiliate 'appenings

(ED. NOTE: When sending in reports of shows, please group the plants if one person wins with several. Please send in your writeups in following manner:)

The WINNIPEG (MANITOBA, CANADA) AVS held three African violet shows in 1976. At the Garden City Show awards were as follows: Best in show and best advanced amateur, 'Genessee Peach Blossom', best collection of Canadian named varieties, 'Barbara Jean', 'Jayme', 'James Arthur', best collection of named single varieties, 'Garnet Elf', 'Red Charm', 'Scarlett O'Hara', best collection of registered plants, 'Superba', 'Astro Pink', 'Lilac Time', aggregate winner, advanced amateur, Mrs. C. W. Beattie; best amateur, 'Alexa', Sheila Andrich; best artistic class, best gesneriad, 'Violet Trail', Robert Serbin; best Rhapsodie, 'Violetta', Kay Storożak; aggregate winner amateur, Irene Haddow. At the Manisphere Show winners were: Best in show and best advanced amateur, 'Top Dollar', Kay Nemeth; best amateur, 'Alexa' aggregate amateur, Sheila Andrich; best gesneriad, 'Moss Agate', Mrs. T. Southall; best Rhapsodie, 'Sophia', best single variety collection, 'Bull's Eye', 'Juniper', 'Jennifer'; best registered variety collection, 'Poodle Top', 'Carefree', 'Gotcha' aggregate advanced, Robert Serbin. International Show winners were: Best in show and best advanced amateur, 'Sport of Garnet Elf', best variegated, 'Blue Storm', best single variety collection, 'Sport of Garnet Elf', 'James Arthur', 'Bull's Eye', best registered variety collection, 'Lime Crisp', 'Asto Pink', 'Silver Celebration'; best Canadian collection, 'Juan Lee', 'Barbara Jean', 'Sport of Alexa' aggregate advanced amateur, Mrs. C. W. Beattie; best amateur, 'She She Coe', Mrs. M. Mueller; best Rhapsodie, 'GiGi', Mrs. Irene Haddow; best gesneriad, 'Ruby', Kay Nemeth; aggregate amateur, Sheila Andrich.

The AVS OF EAST BAY, INC., held its annual show, "Violets In Red, White and Blue" with the following winners: Advanced amateur; best, 'Christmas Holly', Mrs. Phil Simpson; second best, 'Jewelstone', third best, 'Silver Champion', Mrs. Dean Gray, who also took sweepstakes with 22 blue ribbons; amateur: best, 'Episcia Pink Brocade', Mrs. Pearl Buenz; second best; 'Lady Luck', third best, 'Trail Along', Matt Wright; novice: best, 'Blue Dot', Mrs. Opal Street; second best, 'Violet Trail', Mrs. Robert Macklin; third best, 'Tommie Lou', Mrs. Joan Gigliatti; best registered Western, 'Westdale California', Mrs. Louis Ambler; second best, 'Delectable', Mrs. Dean Gray; best

variegated, 'Silver Champion'; best single, 'Boyce Edens'; Mrs. Dean Gray; largest blue ribbon plant, 'Rhapsodie Venus', best club project plant, 'Pink Swan', Mrs. R. P. Stone; best artistic planting, "One If by Land, Two if by Sea", Mrs. Pearl Buenz; best miniature, 'Little White Cloud', Mrs. Louis Ambler; best arrangement, "Shades of Old Glory", Mrs. Wendell Bruce; best unusual container, 'Coral Reef' in a conch shell, Mrs. Erwin Perkins; 22 new AVSA memberships were taken. Awards to Miss Marion Ivory and Wesco African Violets for commercial display tables and to Steven Bonacich for educational exhibit.

African violet winners in the SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY FAIR show were: Sally Smith, sweepstakes in advanced class, best in show, 'May Queen', best single, 'Garnet Elf', Edna Rosenthal, sweepstakes in intermediate class; Jean and Don Du Pertuis, sweepstakes in novice class; Ted Khoe, best miniature in show, 'Tiny Gypsy'; and Cecile and Louis Ambler, fourth place among the 21 flower societies and clubs for Educational Table, "The Ten Propers"; Frances McMahon was show chairman and Alice Black co-chairman.

The SILVERMINE AVS' third annual judged show, "Violets Are Revolutionary", had John Kosik, Jr., of Stamford as show chairman and Gilbert Green of Wilton as co-chairman. Award winners were: Tri color, best novice, 'Mary D', Ralph Goddard of Stamford; queen of show, 'Peak of Pink', AVSA gold rosette, 'Mystic', 'Carefree', 'Brigadoon', special awards, 'Love Letter', 'The King'; sweepstakes (29 blue ribbons), special staging award, Mrs. Joseph Stramandole of Darien; runnerup to queen, 'Miriam Steel', Mrs. Larry Smerigic of Port Chester, NY; special award 'Gypsy Pink', runnerup to sweepstakes (21 blue ribbons), Mrs. John Kosik, Jr. of Stamford; best artistic design, a terrarium, best commercial plant, 'Ballet Marta', best commercial display, Mrs. Anthony Cheska of Stamford; best gesneriad, 'Episcia Filligree', Peter Dixon of Riverside; best window grown, 'Anna', Mrs. E. Thomas O'Hara of Danbury; best President's Challenge, 'Corpus Christi', Mrs. Ralph Goddard of Stamford; best miniature plant, 'Bright Eyes', John Kosik, Jr.; special award for educational table, Mrs. Balwant Singh of Stamford.

List Your Best Varieties

It is again time to submit your list of 25 choices of African Violet Varieties. The 1976 list was compiled from 1604 lists submitted by 168 Societies and 81 individual AVSA members. Thank you one and all. With AVSA membership over 21,000 we are hoping for better participation. Let every member try to encourage at least one member to submit a list. We will be appreciative.

It is the responsibility of every AVSA member to submit a list. Please help us.

Please send your list before April 1, 1977 to: Mrs. M. G. Gonzales, 200 Doris Ave., San Jose, CA 95127



COMING EVENTS

(Please send notices of "Coming Events" directly to the Editor; not to the Knoxville office. See Page 3 (Strictly Business—Your Business) for deadlines).

January 22 — Top Choice AVS' workshop on all aspects of African violet culture at Barnwell Center on the Riverfront, Shreveport, LA. Registration 9:30 a.m. Workshop 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Open to the public. Mrs. C. D. Attaway, workshop chairman.

February 10-12 — Upper Pinellas AVS of Largo, FL to hold 18th annual show, "African Violets—Nature's Gift", at Sunshine Mall in Clearwater, FL. Dorothy Gray, president; Hazel C. Wester, publicity chairman. Feb. 10, 1-9 p.m.; Feb. 11, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Feb. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

February 11-12 — First New Orleans AVS' fifth annual show/plant sale "Love Is...", at Oakwood Shopping Center in New Orleans, LA. Sale of plants at Country Store. Feb. 11, 5-9 p.m.; Feb. 12, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

February 12-13 — Wichita AV Study Club's show, "Violets For Valentines" at Diamon Inn Convention Center, 6815 W. Hy. 54, Wichita, KA. Feb. 12, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Feb. 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Show chairman, Mrs. Joe Cox.

February 26 — Alamo AVS' annual artistic display and plant sale, "Lov — Is African Violets", at Wonderland Shopping Mall, San Antonio, TX. Chairman, Mrs. V. F. Fritsch; co-chairmen, Mrs. Chas. Spengler and Mrs. Byron Taggart. President, Mrs. J. R. Pittman.

February 26-27 — Shreveport AVS' annual show at Barnwell Memorial Garden and Art Center, 501 Clyde Fant Parkway. Free admission, free parking, 2-5 p.m. Mrs. Frank J. Rodie, show chairman.

February 26-27 — Haines City AVS' annual judged show/plant sale "Violets in Paradise", at Haines City Civic Center, Haines City, FL. Mrs. Warren B. Partain, show chairman. Admission free.

March 4-5 — AVS of Pensacola, FL to hold first annual show, "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" at Cordova Mall, Pensacola. Barbara Hahn and Donna Seay, show chairmen. Mar. 4, 3-9 p.m.; Mar. 5, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

March 4-5-6 — Fort Worth AVS' spring show, "Plants for All Seasons" at Seminary South Shopping Center, Fort Worth, TX. Open to public. Free. Mrs. E. E. Harlow, show chairman. Mar. 4, 6-9 p.m.; Mar. 5, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Mar. 6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

March 4-6 — Central Florida AVS' sixth annual show, "A Journey Thru the Zodiac" at Florida Gas Company, Winter Park, FL. Mar. 5, 1:30-5 p.m.; Mar. 6, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. H. Steven Johnson, show chairman.

March 5-6 — Tucson AVS' horticultural and artistic exhibit at University Married Students Housing, 3401 N.

Columbus Blvd., Tucson, AZ. Admission free. Mar. 5, 3-8 p.m.; Mar. 6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information contact Miss Betsy Evans, 4430 E. Presidio Pl., Tucson, AZ 85712.

March 6-7 — Violet Harmony Club's annual show, "The Sound of Music," at Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center, Fort Worth, TX. Open to public. Dr. David Fuchshuber, show chairman.

March 11-12 — Top Choice AVS' annual spring show at Pierremont Mall. Open to the public, Mar. 11, 2-8 p.m.; Mar. 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mrs. Glenn Reeves, show chairman.

March 12-13 — Twilight AVS' show/sale in Austin Area Garden Center of Zilker Park, Austin, TX. Mar. 12, 12 noon-5 p.m.; Mar. 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

March 26-27 — Miracle Strip AVS' annual show at Municipal Auditorium, Panama City, FL. Chris Huebscher, show chairman.

March 26-27 — Montgomery AVS seventh annual show, "There's No Business Like Show Business", at Normandale Auditorium. Free to public. Mar. 26, 2-6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 1-5 p.m. Mrs. O. O. Sisler, president; Mrs. Jeff Fuller, show chairman.

March 26-27 — Rhode Island AVS' annual show "Violets Ahoy", at Woodridge Congregational Church parish house, 30 Jackson Road (off Reservoir Ave. at Garden City, Rt. 2 North), Cranston, RI. Mar. 26, 2-6 p.m.; Mar. 27, 1-6 p.m. Admission free. Plants and supplies on sale. Off street parking available.

March 30-April 1 — Dixie AVS' 1977 convention/show, "Dixie Comes of Age", to be hosted by Alexandria AVS at Ramada Inn, Alexandria, LA. Mar. 30, show open to convention, 4-6 p.m.; Mar. 31, show open to public, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Dr. J. B. Jung, president of Dixie, convention chairman; Mrs. Joe L. Williamson, show chairman; Mrs. Carl S. Ball, co-chairman; Mrs. W. H. Rollins, Alexandria AVS president.

April 13-14 — 43rd annual daffodil show of the Garden Club of Virginia, sponsored by Mill Mountain Garden Club, at National Guard Armory, Roanoke, VA.

April 14-16 — Milwaukee AVS' annual show/plant sale "Violet Garden", at Mayfair Shopping Center Mall in Milwaukee, WI. Mrs. Arthur Geisler, show chairman.

May 7-8 — The AVC of Salt Lake City, UT to hold annual show at the Garden Center Salt Lake City. Theme will be "Silver Celebration".

May 21-22 — Rocky Mountain AV Council's annual show/plant sale "Enchanted Carousel", at Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, CO. Public invited. Free. Harold Young, show chairman; Dot Roesch, co-chairman; Isabel Wolf, judging chairman. May 21, 1-4:30 p.m.; May 22, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Dolomite lime is not the same as hydrated lime, which could burn the roots.

A Rank Amateur Hybridizes

Mrs. J. Murphy
Hallam Road
Hampton Park, Victoria
Australia 3976

Little did I know what a fascinating field I was entering the first time I dabbed pollen of 'Early Star' on to 'Plum Tips.' And I didn't realize how this would start me on the search for more and more knowledge on the subject.

As the months passed and the long green seed pod formed, swelled and grew to maximum size, I watched and waited — and then it changed. It shrivelled and shrank in size until all I had left was a thin, brown, scrawny-looking bit of a thing to which one couldn't give a name. I looked at it and wondered how it could possibly hold the miracle of life and be the starting point for beauty, color and shape.

How could such a minute object as a violet seed produce such wonderful flowers as we know it can?

After drying the pod for a couple of weeks in a dry glass, I prepared a seed bed of fine vermiculite on chip charcoal, dampened and smoothed down. The seed was duly sprinkled on top, covered with a glass, and placed in a nice warm spot, well lit, on bottom heated benches.

I have electric tubes, under fibro cement benches, thermostatically controlled in my violet room. Eventually green specks appeared on the surface, and with a magnifying glass I could see the green leaves taking shape... plants starting life anew! Eventually buds formed and the excitement of seeing what I had produced! I didn't expect much as I knew by then that the first cross didn't usually produce much.

The first plants were a mixture of pale lilac and deep violet ones. The lilac ones had two small petals on top and larger ones underneath. The purple ones were just ordinary shaped. The tips from 'Plum Tips' appeared on all flowers, so must be a very dominant gene. The leaves weren't good... big floppy leaves with long stems and never in a hundred years would they have acquired a good shape.

I had also read that the second cross would show greater variety, so I dabbed pollen from one to the other and back again. Then I waited until flowering arrived. This time more reward for my labors! What a mixture! Some hadn't changed from the first from the parents but others had changed completely.

First, the cross had improved the leaf formation. Stems were shorter and leaves more compact

with a much neater appearance. The range of blooms were from plain pale lilac to palest of pink and a blue purple to deep purple. Shapes ranged from plain to large star shape. The tips showed again, colored from deep plum to a pale buff pink, the last on paler pink flowers. The pale lilac flowers, top petals tipped, had become larger on the bottom, flowers gaining this from their 'Early Star' parentage. One plant is full of blossoms and holding its blooms well in the hottest of our Australian days. Another has a dainty pansy face with a deep lilac throat on lilac petals. Quite gratifying for a first try!

They may not be show winners but they are my first babies and a joy to me! One star is easily two inches across.

Now I have crossed the best three, the pale pink ones, obviously the recessive color. I'm waiting to see what eventuates. Who knows! Maybe they will be real beauties!

I badly need more information on the subject of hybridizing, and would welcome it from any source among you AVSA members. There is so little available in Australia. It's 'hit and miss' for us who live here.

I love violet growing. It has brought such happiness and satisfaction in my life and the mere fact my disability of paraplegia doesn't affect my growing them has given me a feeling of being back to normal again. I want to fully understand hybridizing and if any of you other AVSA members could send me any information, I would be more than grateful.

USE CHARCOAL

Charcoal has no food value, but it has the capacity of absorbing and holding nitrogen until it is needed by the plant. One grain of charcoal will absorb 80 times its own bulk of organic nitrogen, and conserves this valuable fertilizing material until African violets can use it. It also has the capacity of destroying injurious acids and, at the same time, absorbing undesirable odors. Try adding charcoal to the water in which leaves are rooting.

Watering The Lazy Way

Mrs. Sybil Behrens
Adams, NE 68301

I do feel that watering correctly is one of the most important factors in growing African violets successfully.

How many times have we been asked, "How do you water?" Secondly, I also have a faint hunch that everyone of us with a goodly number of violets is trying to find a quicker, more efficient way to do the job.

This desire, plus my nosey nature, led me down an expensive, but interesting, path. I started out with aquamatics. Now, don't get me wrong. I am really sold on some of their features. At the present time, I am using mine exclusively to grow my leaves. I do not feel they can't be beat for this purpose. For large plants — no thank you! The plants did beautifully but I found it more time consuming to fill them with water than watering conventionally. Also, they had to be moved to fill. Hence, broken leaves.

My next adventure was green sand path pots. Also, the plants did very well in them. Beautifully, in fact. But, as with the aquamatics, there is a good deal of expense involved.

I love to give away plants and I sell enough to pay for my hobby. But I am just too tight to give away those expensive pots. And people who come to buy will rarely pay the difference.

So, on with my quest. I might add here that my dear husband was beginning at this time to hint very broadly, to say the least, that he was very concerned about the time and work I put into my plants.

In February 1973 I was preparing a lesson on pots for a violet club. A friend brought me one of Volkmann's pots from a Texas visit. This set the old wheels to turning. I tried a plastic whipped topping carton, cut a quarter sized hole in it, inserted a piece of yarn in a pot and tried it out. Worked pretty good, too, but as you know you must have another hole for air to exit when water enters one hole. So

I had trouble with water spattering all over instead of entering said container. So another hole was added. I then cut two holes in the top of the lid, each about one-inch in diameter.

I used a sharp, narrow pointed paring knife and the holes are very easy to cut. I put the wick in the back hole and believe it or not, nine times out of 10, I just pour a pint or more of water in the top of the pot and let it run on through. I have had, to a more or less degree, some root rot for the past

four summers. During the past year I had two get it in the sand path, one in an aquamatic, 8 or 10 unwicked in plain pots, but not a single case in those sappy wet wicked plants. I have over 100 plants on reservoirs such as this right now. I have had more. Also use one-pound margarine tubs and any other that my wide circle of friends donate to the cause.

This summer I started to exchange ideas with another violet grower, Maxine Nelson of San Diego. She has the best idea yet!

She uses the large fiberglass trays with the eggcrate fiberglass light diffusers as racks over them. The wick just extends down into the tray. They are the laziest approach to watering violets I have ever tried.

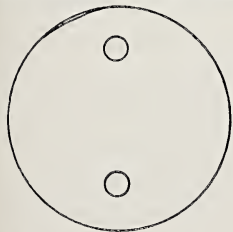
Of course, every good thing has its drawbacks. This time it's money. The trays are offered for sale by Tube Craft and I ordered the diffusers from a nationwide mail order house. Most lumberjacks can get them, too, at about \$3 extra a piece. Total cost per shelf about \$20. My stands were originally built with the idea of using these trays, so I'm lucky. I'm sure some of you ingenious people can come up with far less expensive setups. I've tinkered with the idea of aluminum cookie sheets with cake cooling racks over them. Of course, they won't hold as large a supply of water. Get aluminum — the others will rust.

I can get about a gallon of water in each tray and that lasts the 15 or 16 plants on each one a long time. I have nine shelves set up this way now out of 25 and you just can't believe the time saving — also the mess saving.

One word of caution: I'd hate to think what a disease or insect infestation would do. Can you imagine a better setup for spreading? You will have to be extra careful about isolation of new plants.

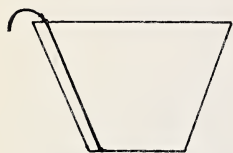
Now as to wicks. I knit for fun and as a pastime. Only once have I ever had exactly the right amount of yarn. So I have a goodly amount left over yarn and my plants have very colorful wicks. I use only synthetic yarn — all weights. If it is baby yarn, I use six strands; bulky yarn, one strand; worsted yarn, three strands.

I have found it much easier to get the wick to work if the yarn is wet when I put it into the pot. If not, I always set the pot in a saucer and water as usual, until it will soak up no more water, and only then put it on the reservoir. Even then, it is a good idea to check in a week to be sure everything is working.



If you are not a knitter nor have a friend you can con out of scraps, watch the sales and you can generally get odd balls of yarn at under \$1. Each ball or skein wicks a large number of pots. I'll bet it will cost well under a penny a plant.

I usually take the wick clear up one side of the pot, like the sketch, and after I have the plant and soil in place, I gently pull it down below soil level. It also works just laying it on the bottom of the pot.



I have always grown lovely plants, I rather dislike large old plants. But since I have been wicking, my plants are something else. I really think that at almost any given time, I could display 75 or more fine plants. I do not fuss and groom my plants, other than to remove spent blooms and leaves.

Her Four Plants Get Five Ribbons

Cheryl Koch
4 Glenside Drive
Pelham, NH 03076

Although I'm a relatively new grower, I've decided that once you understand the fundamentals of water, light, etc., anything can happen as far as African violets are concerned.

I know for with only four plants I entered in our show, I won three blue ribbons, one red ribbon, and one Best in Class!

The show was on a Saturday, and I had only joined the club on the previous Tuesday, after attending my very first meeting.

African violet people are so wonderful! I had brought four of my best plants to the meeting to see if they would be good enough to enter in the show on Saturday. Needless to say, I hadn't done any special grooming for the show since I didn't know I would be entering. Everyone said that they were good enough to enter, so hesitantly I entered them.

You can imagine my surprise and ecstatic delight when my four plants won one red ribbon, three blue ribbons, and one Best in Class!!! I was so thrilled — and still am. It still doesn't feel like it really happened. How could I be so lucky? Needless to say, my ribbons are very proudly displayed in my living room.

My husband was thrilled too. Heretofore, my interests in hobby-type things had only lasted for a

week or two. And now, with my violets, I had spent eight months enjoying them (and acquiring more — as all violet lovers do), and without hardly trying had won 5 ribbons!

This should certainly be an incentive to any new grower.

The day after the show was Mother's Day. My wonderful husband, as my Mother's Day present, immediately started building a room in the cellar so that I could grow violets under lights. So far, all my violets have been grown in window light only (with the exception of a Spot-O-Sun lamp which my mother-in-law gave me) and they are crowded on windowsills, tables and benches throughout the house. My husband teases me that one day he will try to get into the bed and his side will be taken up with violets!!!

I have been reading everything I can get my hands on, including Helen Van Pelt Wilson's "African Violet Book", the "African Violet Magazine" (which is wonderful!), and all other books I can find on African violets.

Today I have almost 75 named varieties, and almost 150 plants. I enjoy putting leaves down to start new plantlets, and am always on the lookout for leaves that throw a plant out of symmetry. Then off they come to start new little plants.

So, as you can see, I am a very fortunate and happy new grower of that wonderful plant, the beautiful African violet.

If anyone is interested in corresponding with me, I would be delighted to exchange ideas on this terrific hobby.

SOIL STERILIZATION A MUST FOR VIOLETS

Few violet growers fail to sterilize their soil or buy sterilized soil, but with so many new members being added to our rolls, we thought the subject might need frequent repeating.

The advantages gained from soil sterilization far outweigh the inconvenience or extra work required to do it. It seems incredible that any grower would rather fight soil-borne diseases and pests than use sterilization that quickly and easily does the whole job.

Soil sterilization actually amounts to pasteurization, but the term "sterilization" has become so widely used that it now seems acceptable in connection with discussions concerned with ridding soils of diseases. Good soil pasteurization requires that the soil be heated quickly and cooled rapidly. The soil should be heated to 160 degrees and held there for 60 to 90 minutes.

However, many growers sterilize the soil at 180 to 212 degrees.

Why Not a Pole of Violets?

Linda Carr
1246B Harcourt Ave.
Seaside, CA 93955

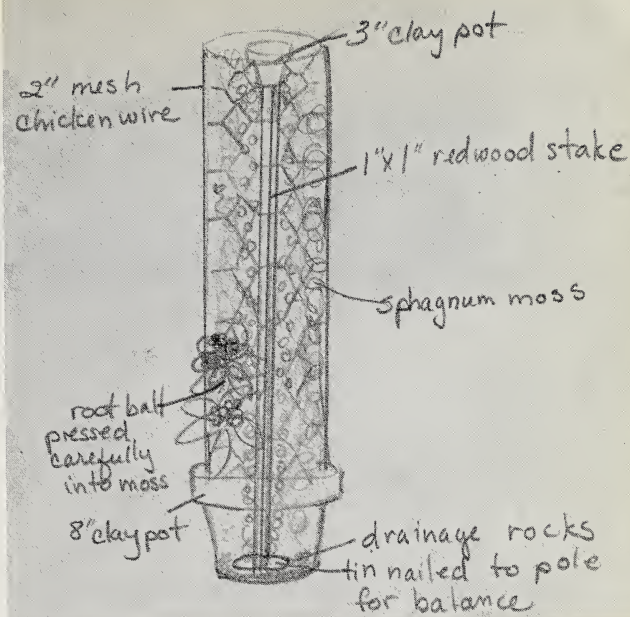
If you have ever wanted an unique way of displaying your African violets, let me suggest a "pole of violets". The space required is that of a six-or eight-inch pot! Plant the violets in a sphagnum moss covered pole. A two foot pole will hold about 18 plants. The pole will help maintain the high humidity, warmth, moisture, and rapid drainage needed to grow African violets.

My pole is constructed of a 20" x 24" piece of chicken wire (2" mesh), three pounds of unmilled sphagnum moss, charcoal (rinsed well), a 1" x 1" redwood stake 24" long, a tin can lid, a 3-inch clay pot and an 8" clay pot.

I soak the sphagnum moss in a solution of one tablespoon water-soluble fertilizer to one gallon of water (Miracle-Grow 15-30-15). I laid the wire out flat, in my driveway as this is a messy job. Then I spread a three-inch thickness of moss evenly over the wire, after it had been well drained, and sprinkled a layer of charcoal on the moss. To balance the pole and keep the charcoal in, nail the lid to the bottom of the one-inch redwood stake. I placed the stake in the middle of the moss-charcoal spread, keeping the lid on the bottom. Roll the entire concoction very tightly around the stake, overlapping the ends, tucking and fastening them. This is very difficult and the most important step as the moss must be firm in order to keep the moss moist. I suggest a strong helping hand be present.

I set my pole in an eight-inch pot with aquarium rock in the bottom for anchorage and drainage. Place the three inch pot in the top of the pole with nylon stocking or wicking material to let the water drip into the pole.

I filled the pole with standard violets, mainly the odd shaped ones! After removing all the soil and washing the roots, I wrapped the roots in a blanket of wet moss, made a hole in the moss pole and carefully worked the plant into the moss. I put a small hole (finger size) above each plant to be able to check for moisture. Until the plants become accustomed to their new environment they must be checked for moisture at least twice a day. My pole is six months old and I check it for moisture and mist it each morning. I use the constant feed method with (Miracle-Grow 15-30-15, alternating fish emulsion). I keep the pole in a



Inside view of pole. Any large container may be used to support pole.

southwest corner, rotating it twice a day, one quarter turn.

I do enjoy my collection more, now that space is not a problem. Use your imagination and create a masterpiece --- wouldn't a six foot pole of violets be an eye catcher! WOW!!



Mrs. Mary Cotta examines her niece's pole of violets.

Question Box



By Anne Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006

Dear Readers:

As we begin a bright new year, once again we are privileged to grow and show some of the most beautiful African violets in existence. The joy of growing plants begins with the excitement, anticipation and inspiration that flowering plants give at this time of year. A Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Anne Tinari

Q. Dear Anne: I live in a small apartment and possess two African violets that are simply beautiful and I want them to stay that way. Now I want to use a spray as a preventative so must I make a gallon of spray as all the articles give me this proportion? I specifically want to use the 50% Malathion spray. What do you suggest?

A. This insecticide can be used at a 1/4 tsp. to a pint of warm or tepid water and is effective as a preventative. I would suggest putting it in a mist sprayer to apply, taking precaution to do it when the sun and light is off of the plants.

Q. I am so confused in determining how wet to keep my rooting medium and for fear of drying the medium too much I usually end up losing a large amount of leaves, never knowing when and how much to water or whether to keep them out of the light.

A. It is wisest to keep rooting medium slightly moist, never wet. If you are keeping the leaf cuttings away from the light that would be good cause for them to rot. All plant cuttings need sufficient light. Either natural or artificial can be used. Avoid the burning sunlight or excess light reflected through two panes of glass which can create a very high temperature and destroy plant life in a very short time. If you are keeping the cuttings covered you must remember to provide enough ventilation in your rooting box so that excessive high humidity does not occur.

Q. The bottom row of my plants appear yellow and often get jelly-looking. The plant develops a long neck before this condition stops. One plant in particular grows in this manner and others occasionally.

A. It is quite normal for lower outer leaves to deteriorate. This is not always a sign of disease but age and plant being drawn up from the soil due to light, unsuitable conditions and the care which the plant is given can make this happen. If your plant is old, discard it and start fresh young cuttings to replace it. Use a good firm leaf of your plant. Too, if you wish to save this particular plant, remove it from the soil and start it in fresh new earth by sinking it down further into the pot, putting the soil up to the area where the petioles start or breaking off the long neck to where fresh growth is, rerooting it in water or a rooting medium of half sand and half vermiculite until new fibrous roots have been established and then replant.

Q. Dear Anne:

Being a new member in the society, I am simply fascinated with the Saintpaulia species. Where can I find details on descriptions and actual photos or material dealing with their origin and habitat.

A. There have been many articles in the magazines over the years, however, some of the most recent very descriptive and valuable information along with photographs of the various known species can be found in the following magazine issues: Volume 27, No. 4, Sept. issue 1974 by L. H. Bailey and Margaret H. Stone of Cornell University, page 25 entitled "Saintpaulia Species;" AVSA magazine Volume 23, No. 1, page 16, November 1969 and Volume 23, No. 2, January issue 1970 is a lengthy article by Mrs. Hudson that has very worthwhile reading.

Q. Is it safe to dip or spray plants with Malathion in the house? I have small children and pets which concern me. I am suspicious that my plants have thrips. Are mask and gloves necessary in using this spray?

A. When the topic of insecticides and pesticides is under discussion there are no positive answers as to safety or guarantee. The degree of safety is with the use and the precautions taken to protect others and yourself.

Malathion possesses a very undesirable offensive odor, but can be used with good results for the ailments you mention. It is very effective as a

spray diluted 1 tsp. per gallon of water and applied with a fine mist sprayer or it can be used as a drench on plants applying around the rim of the pot. Remember, too, one spraying is never quite enough to get rid of the pest but should be repeated in about 7 days for several times.

I would suggest removing plants to an area where children and pets would not be subject to any fumes or residue that the odors would cause. Also use the material where adequate ventilation is present. Gloves are a must and using a light mask would also be a good precaution. This material has a way of permeating an area so it might be wise also to use it when others are away from home.

Q. I have planted leaves and they have sprouted, I don't know what's wrong when the baby leaves come up, the mother leaf starts to turn dark black and rots all the way down until the whole leaf is covered. What causes this?

A. Make certain you are using a sterilized medium in which your leaves are rooting. Any starting material that is contaminated can cause rot as you describe it. Also keeping your rooting medium too wet can begin this process. Use proper drainage and even a little charcoal under your rooting medium can be helpful. There can be harmful organisms in your rooting medium to cause such a problem.

Q. Dear Anne: I am writing to tell you about something that happened to me that my friends insist they never heard of before, probably not new to you, but here goes. About six months ago I was messing with my violets and I broke off a stem

with several blossoms on it. I put the stem down in some vermiculite that I had and forgot all about it. I noticed months later the stem had rooted. I have since transplanted it and it looks like the enclosed drawing. Isn't this unusual?

A. I can imagine your surprise to have a blossom stalk grow into a plant. It is quite unusual, but I have

seen it previously. The African violet and all its many facets are so fascinating, if you had the right temperature, atmosphere etc., do believe you could be successful rooting any part of it. There was probably just enough plant tissue to start the process of growth.

I had a very strange thing happen this week on a

large seed pod of a sinningia. I had paid no attention to it and when about ready to cut it off I noticed a minute green growth sprouting out of the seed shell. This I had never seen before. The tiny seed pod no doubt was fertile and found enough moisture and humid atmosphere to start a tiny new plant right in the pod.

Q. Dear Anne: I am in the habit of spraying all my African violets once a month whether there are signs of disease or insects as a precaution, but I always mix more spray than I need. Should I keep the leftover mixture to use another time. Would it be as effective?

A. No, it is unwise to save any diluted spray mixture as it loses its potency shortly after being mixed and it usually poses as a hazard to other family members if not carefully labeled as to its contents.

Q. Since I use peat moss, vermiculite and perlite in my soil mixture, should I also fertilize?

A. My dear, these materials serve their purpose well in providing good substance, drainage and good porosity of the soil but contain no nutritive value. So fertilizer must be used in proper proportion, especially for a flowering plant such as the African violet, where constant replenishment of the nutrients that are flushed out of the soil need replacement.

Q. I have my miniatures in various size terrariums to add color and interest. However, is it necessary to water them more often than the other plants that share the same environment?

A. If your terrariums have a lid none of the plants including the African violets will require much water. Most of the moisture needed will be provided by its own accumulation process. Proper ventilation, proper air circulation is very beneficial. Keeping the terrarium in an area where sufficient light is available but avoiding the hot or burning sunlight is most important.

Q. About three months ago I purchased a pure white African violet with no trace of any other color. Within the last month each new flower seems to be picking up a pink color. I just don't understand what is happening?

A. It is quite possible your violet is showing a recessive trait. This can happen in many cultivars. They can go along for years being true to variety and then suddenly revert. Sometimes a different water or soil pH or fluctuating temperatures can be the cause, however, generally it is recessiveness that occurs.



Q. Dear Anne, when I propagate violets I prefer putting each cutting into a small pot and the new plant always pops through the ground near the stem which I know is normal. However, I have discovered one starting new growth on the underside of the leaf. Imagine my surprise! Isn't that unusual or am I being initiated into an old trick?

A. The phenomenon is rather unusual but can and does happen occasionally in African violet propagation. The challenge is trying to repot it when the time arrives to firm it in the pot without roots until growth is established. Possibly the use of a toothpick to hold it down can be useful.

Q. I am very interested in knowing what the "Parson Series" are. None of the violet growers in my vicinity seem to know.

A. Regarding the "Parson Series" these are African violet cultivars hybridized by the Rev. Blades of Stafford, Mo. I was privileged to meet him at the recent Atlanta convention and he told me about his love for African violets and the great joy of sharing them with others had led him into this fascinating hobby.

There are quite a number of his introductions available through other growers who list them. My advice is to carefully search the ads in the recent issues of the African violet magazine if you wish to purchase them.

Q. Dear Anne, Can you explain why some plants on former registered lists should fall into the miniature or semiminature class, but are not listed as such?

A. One must remember miniatures and semi-miniatures have come into great popularity in the last dozen years or more. Registration became a reality several years after our society was established and cards for registered plants state "diameter of mature plant". Thus many hybridizers would simply mark the size whether it be 6" or 16" and omit stating whether the plant was a true miniature or semiminature. Now, of course, we are more aware of the prominence of these two types and state very frankly the category they fall into.

READER'S TIPS

TIP No. 1 . . . I have found an ingenious way of watering my many hanging plants which are trailing African violets, episcias, and many of the interesting gesneriads.

By slipping a shower cap over the bottom of the container to catch any water that may drip I have solved the problem of water dripping on the furniture or carpet.

TIP No. 2 . . . Dear Anne: When I use clay pots for my violets I dip the rims of the pots into melted paraffin using a pie plate for melting. Candle stubs can be used. Red color can be obtained if you add red crayon. The result is no more bad leaves from the edges of the pots. Good for sharp edges on plastic pots also.

TIP No. 3 . . . I have had great success in keeping the foliage on my violets clean. Plain warm water sprayed on the plants or sponging the leaves when they are out of the sun and light keep my plants more attractive and they seem to grow better. Leaves covered with dust are denied the light they need. I try to do my spraying at night when the house is warm and they dry up in the warm atmosphere before the sun or light can spot the leaves.

Uses Cups, Mugs To Plant Violets

Gerry Halusek
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What could be prettier than your favorite African violet in an unusual container!

Although a few years ago I started out with just a few plants, I was so fascinated with their beauty and superior qualities as the ideal house plant that my collection grew rapidly.

Because of the size of my collection, it is more economical to mix my own soil (using a sterilized organic potting soil purchased in 40 lb sacks) then mix in vermiculite, sphagnum peat moss and charcoal until I have a nice loose mixture. I fertilize my plants with a weak solution every time I water and occasionally water with a weak tea solution. I grow plants both under lights and on window sills and they do equally well.

I start young plants in 3 oz. plastic cups and when ready for repotting, transfer them to regular coffee cups or mugs or similar shaped containers. I use either china, pottery or plastic containers and very carefully tap a small drainage hole with a small punch or similar shaped tool, in the bottom of the container. Be careful and work slowly, tapping very gently to avoid breakage. The result is a beautiful plant in a unique and inexpensive container, and makes a lovely gift!



Ruffled Red



Rise n' Shine

FROM LEAVES — Here are two beautiful plants from leaves rooted by Suzette Smith, who says she's found a quicker method of rooting leaves by using a styrofoam egg carton in a plastic shoe box, which she calls a miniature greenhouse.

Rooting Leaves Quickly

Suzette Smith
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Have you ever wished you could root your leaves quicker?

I've tried rooting them in water, vermiculite, perlite, a combination of both perlite and vermiculite, and even using aqua planters. These methods are all successful, but the following method seems to be a bit quicker and "excellent" for miniature

leaves and rooting suckers:

Take a styrofoam egg carton.

1. Cut lid off egg carton and place like a tray beneath egg holder part.

2. Make holes in the bottom of each egg cup — for drainage.

3. Fill each egg cup with your rooting medium (½ perlite, ½ vermiculite).

4. Place cuttings, leaves, tubers, etc. — one to each egg cup and water. (Water may have a diluted fertilizer).

5. Place entire tray in a plastic shoe box (Tiny holes can be made in the lid of the shoe box, but this isn't really necessary).

6. You have now created a tiny greenhouse. The styrofoam material is a good retainer of heat and this factor speeds up the rooting process. This method is excellent for miniature leaves and tiny sinningia.

7. Place entire box under your lights and watch for watering and the appearance of your little 'babies'.

'Strange' Violets?

Estelle Taylor
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If African violets can be called "perverse", mine seem to fill the bill. I'm not particularly surprised when two plants from one leaf turn up in different colors but some of them have acted even more strangely.

Several years ago during the first stages of my addiction, one of my plants emulated the aviator Corrigan and went the wrong way and grew out of the bottom of the pot. It grew and grew and bloomed beautifully. I kept it for several years even though I had to devise all sorts of methods for keeping the pot fairly upright.

Now another plant has acted up. I was removing old blooms recently and as I was getting ready to put them in the trash can one of the blooms from 'Cheer U' looked odd. Upon examination I found that coming out of the center of the double blossom was a stem about a half



inch long, topped by another bloom of exactly the same size, color, etc. Perhaps this has happened in other collections but it certainly looked "different"!

I'm now waiting to see what other surprises are in store for me!

Nothing to do? Retiree Says: Get With Violets!

John Murphy
Garden Editor
Pittsburgh Press

W. L. Wiegman likes to sit in front of the fireplace and enjoy his African violets.

"They look good there, don't they?" he asks pointing to the small bright red-tiled artificial fireplace in the living room of his home at 1 Harvard Ave., West View.

Odd as it sounds, Mr. Wiegman is right.

Bathed in fluorescent light on two small shelves are six of his favorites. Their varying shades of rose, pink, lavender and violet are indeed striking against the red background.

"I can enjoy my violets in my fireplace," the 72-year-old retired high school chemistry teacher says.

The fireplace is just one place where Mr. Wiegman enjoys his African violets.

He also enjoys them in his dining room where a lighted shelf garden sports some 50 or 60 of them.

A wall of flowers — white, pink, deep blue-purple and everything in between — dominates the room. About 35 species are included.

Each tray of violets has a layer of wet pebbles — watered daily by Mr. Wiegman to help maintain the 50 per cent relative humidity he feels is best for his violets.

And under each plant is a plastic lid. This, he explains, is to keep the plants from "drowning" by soaking the water from the pebbles up through their roots.

This brings Mr. Wiegman to the point he stresses most — don't overwater. Twice a week is enough, he says, adding that you should stop just when the water starts coming out of the bottom of the pot. Then, he advises, wait a few minutes and drain the excess water.

Mr. Wiegman always fertilizes when he waters and uses Plant Marvel, Peters Special or Garden Life in quarter-strength.

He recalls a few years ago he entrusted the watering of his African violets to a neighbor while visiting his son in Denver.

"They watered those things every day, and when I got back I had no violets," he said.

The three shelves of violets in Mr. Wiegman's dining room are only a "centerpiece."

Two walls are lined with "non-bloomers" and about three-dozen leaf cuttings being rooted in vermiculite.

Downstairs in the basement are rows of more

African violets in varying stages of development, plus his fertilizer and soil supplies.

He mixes his own soil, using peat moss, vermiculite and perlite. He then adds small amounts of powdered limestone, 5-10-5 fertilizer, Superphos and trace element mix.

The limestone, he explains, reduces the acidity of the peat moss and the Superphos encourages blooming.

Mr. Wiegman prefers plastic pots for his plants because "you don't have to water as much with them. Clay pots absorb more water." Plastic pots are also easier to handle, he says.

He also prefers fluorescent light to natural light and gives his blooming violets 14 hours of light daily and the ones in the basement 12 hours.

One cool white light and one warm white light are sufficient for each tray, he advises.

If you decide to grow African violets by natural light, Mr. Wiegman says this is best done by placing them in a north or east window where they will get morning sunlight but be protected from the hot summer noon and afternoon sun.

During the winter, they can stay in a south window where they will receive sunlight much of the day.

For the aspiring African violet grower, Mr. Wiegman has this advice:

Before you do anything, get literature on their care.

"Care is most important."

How did Mr. Wiegman get started?

"My sister-in-law gave me a couple of plants, I liked them, and before you knew it I had a house full of them," he explains.

Mr. Wiegman only started his hobby six years ago when he retired after 33 years of teaching chemistry.

Mr. Wiegman calls the growing and care of African violets, on which he spends 15 to 20 hours a week, "very absorbing and interesting."

And to retirees who have nothing to do, he says, "Get two-dozen African violet plants, and you'll have plenty to do."

WATERING VIOLETS

African violets may be watered from either the top or the bottom. Only be sure that the pot is not allowed to sit in water. Your plant will not appreciate wet feet.

A Soil Of Your Own

Scott Snyder
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(EDITOR'S NOTE: This article by Scott Snyder is to be followed by a series of soil recipes sent in by African violet growers.)

I have often thought, while reading someone's recipe for soil, that what is right for Mrs. M....'s violets wicked in plastic pots in her cool, moist basement must not necessarily apply to mine, top-watered in clay pots in my dry, forced-air heated apartment. This article was written to provide African violet hobbyists, like myself, the basic fund of knowledge required to develop a soil tailored to the individual circumstances. In order to attack the problem of soil from this angle, a discussion of the function of soils, the nutrients provided by soils, and general soil conditions must first be presented. Then a practical application of this knowledge along with careful observation should lead me and my readers to an ideal medium for the culture and propagation of violets in our unique surroundings.

FUNCTION OF SOILS

Soil has two basic functions. First, it must provide a structural medium in which the plant can support itself in an upright position. African violets like a light soft medium in which to root. Secondly, the soil must provide adequate, but not toxic, amounts of the necessary nutrients for growth and development, and must make them sufficiently available in usable form. Nutrition is really the major function of soils as it concerns us in our efforts to please the *Saintpaulia*.

NUTRIENTS PROVIDED BY SOILS

Water. Perhaps the most important nutrient is water, since most plants are 90% water. Water serves multiple functions: it is the medium for transporting and storing sugars, the matrix for photosynthesis and metabolism of sugars, and the means of carrying off wastes. Water also acts as a carrier of gases, proteins, minerals, fats and waxes. Small amounts of water are used in the formation of sugars during photosynthesis.

The fate of water which enters the plant from the soil is worth considering. Most of it is probably lost to the air around the leaves, and most of this

through stomata (small openings on the under-surface of leaves where carbon dioxide is taken up for use in photosynthesis). This water loss is called transpiration, and the volume of water lost in this way is several times the total volume contained in the plant. The amount lost is dependent upon light, the number of flowers, temperature, humidity and the movement of air about the growing area. Plants in areas where the temperature is high, light is long, where drafts are prevalent, and where humidity is low will lose much water to transpiration.

Water is held in the interspaces of the soil particles, and is conducted by capillary action on the particles. The larger the particles, the larger the interspaces and the less water is held by the soil.

Gases. It is important that the roots of the plant be supplied with air. Oxygen is required for respiration in the roots, the source of energy for the uptake of minerals and nutrients. Elemental nitrogen is not usable by African violets, but saprophytes (bacteria and algae that live in the soil) can convert nitrogen from the air to forms which the African violet can use.

Minerals Nitrogen is used by the plant to form amino acids, proteins and nucleotides. Most of the nitrogen must be in the form of nitrates (NO_3^-) or ammonium ions (NH_4^+). Nitrogen is found in composts, manures (the breakdown of old organic wastes by saprophytes), and can be provided as nitrate salts. Elemental nitrogen is held in soil by charcoal and can be converted to useful forms by saprophytes. Nitrogen deficiency causes small ill-looking plants, a condition called chlorosis.

Potassium (K^+) is used in enzyme, amino acid and protein production. It seems to be very important for root development and for the uptake of other minerals by the roots. Potassium is found in bone and blood meals, composts, manures, potash and chemical fertilizers with potassium sulfate (K_2SO_4). Deficiency of potassium causes plants with yellow-edged leaves and poor root development.

Calcium pectate is responsible for the rigidity of the cell wall and the structural integrity of the plant. Soluble calcium (Ca^{++}) seems to be im-

portant for the growth of stem and root apices. This mineral is found in eggshells, dolemite lime, and can be applied as calcium phosphate. Deficiency causes stunting of the stems and roots.

Phosphorus is used in the formation of high energy phosphate bonds and in nucleic acids. It is important in sugar metabolism during dark phase photosynthesis. It can be provided by composts, manures, bone and blood meals, superphosphate of lime $[\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2]$ or as calcium phosphate $[\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2]$

Magnesium (Mg^{++}) is found in chlorophyll and is the activator of some enzymes in phosphate metabolism. It is found in vermiculite, dolemite lime, and may be applied as magnesium sulfate (MgSO_4).

Sulfur, as sulfate ($\text{SO}_4^{=}$), is found in some proteins. It appears to benefit the African violet in defending against disease. Sulfur deficiency is rare.

There are six trace elements (iron, copper, manganese, zinc, molybdenum, and boron) required for growth whose functions are known, and three (fluorine, cobalt, and nickel) whose functions are uncertain. Most of these are available in soil containing fine sand, silt or clay, and are available commercially as prepared trace elements and in some fertilizers.

GENERAL SOIL CONDITIONS

Soil must contain all the nutrients required, but it must also contain them in reasonable proportions. Nelson suggests that the soil be $\frac{1}{2}$ solid material, $\frac{1}{4}$ water and $\frac{1}{4}$ air.

In addition, the soil must have a pH in the 6.2 to 6.9 range. Many soils are well within this range without further adjustment. Sulfates tend to make the soil more acid (lower the pH) and are used to adjust the soil pH. Limes tend to make the soil more basic (raise the pH). Manures and composts, although usually acidic, have variable pH ranges. Organic soils (those containing manures and composts), while difficult for the horticulturist to control and measure, have means of regulating their own conditions.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Soils are really derivatives of rocks. Rocks are broken down by weather, heat, wind and water to smaller rocks. Lichens and mosses break them further to coarse sand, and as time goes on they are further broken down to fine sand, silt, and then clay. During this grinding process, organic materials are added: mosses, lichens, plants and the wastes of animals. These organic materials are de-

composed and made available to plants. In any soil, all stages exist: fine gravel, coarse sand, fine sand, silt and clay all mixed with decomposed animal and plant wastes (manures and composts). This admixture provides a dynamic balance of water, air and nutrients for the plant it supports.

Now we have the basic fund of knowledge we need to begin to build a soil of our own. It might be compared to selecting a favorite recipe for stew. Starting with a cookbook recipe, the cook adjusts the ingredients to taste. After all, some like lima beans instead of potatoes; some like the gravy made of wine and tomato sauce, some of butter and sour cream.

Many good recipes for African violet soil exist. Thinking about the humidity, temperature, light and air movement, select a soil which seems suitable to the environment. Adjust the recipe keeping in mind the nutrients required for growth, considering which nutrients will come from waterings and which must come from the soil. Making substitutions as needed for convenience and availability of materials, mix up the adjusted recipe and try it. Then observe patiently.

Observation can be difficult, since changes in performance can be subtle. If it is possible to keep two soil mixes on hand, then making an innovation and testing a soil is easy. Simply pot half of the plants in one and half in the other. In a few weeks you may begin to see any differences; on the other hand it may be months before subtle differences become apparent. If space prohibits having two soils, then observation becomes much more subjective unless very accurate records can be kept. A careful series of dates of certain events (such as reaching a certain size, flowering or germination) can give a good indication of how well the plants are responding to their new medium. If the soil is better, move on; if worse, track back to the old recipe. Each adjustment requires thought about the mechanical qualities: is it light enough for roots? does it pack too much? Each requires thought about nutrients: is there a good source of nitrogen? do the ingredients provide trace elements? is there a source of potassium and phosphorus? what part does watering play in nutrition? Each requires thought about water: does the soil contain enough small particles to hold water? does it drain well? can it provide adequate aeration? These thoughts along with careful observation should lead us to happy plants and proud show queens.

CONCLUSION

Soil is a delicate and dynamic part of growing

African violets. The soil we use needs to be tailored to our unique surroundings. To develop such a soil requires a basic understanding of what a plant requires of the soil, and which components satisfy those needs. With this in mind, thoughtful adjustment of the ingredients in the soil and subsequent observation will lead to a more ideal potting mixture.

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Pots: Clay or Plastic?

Some African violet growers prefer clay pots. Others plastic pots.

Those who prefer clay pots say they are more aesthetically pleasing, the high evaporative capacity of their walls lessens the danger of over-watering, and the walls allow fertilizer salts to leach out and oxygen to enter.

On the other hand those who grow in plastic pots contend that plastic pots are lightweight, easy to clean and hard to break, they keep soil evenly moist longer, and there is no leaching of salts to make them unsightly. Plastic pots, being non-porous, do not dry out as fast.

Clay pots keep the plant roots cool and aerated. In fact, tests have shown that clay pots keep roots as much as 10 to 15 per cent cooler than plastic pots. This can be helpful in hot homes in the winter, where warm soil can stimulate growth that will be weak because of insufficient light.

On the plus side of plastic pots — provided the grower assures very good drainage with a light-

textured potting mix and good drainage holes — is the reduction of fluctuations in the moisture and air supply.

There are, of course, pots of many materials, clay, plastic, foam, rubber, wood and ceramic, just to mention a few.

The clay pot industry is the oldest — about 17,000 years old and all during that time very little change was made in the clay pot. In fact, more has happened to flower pots in the last two decades than in the first 10,000 years. In the midst of these changes, one thing has remained the same: The shape of the pot.

So whether you prefer clay, plastic or some other material is a matter of personal choice — the only thing that matters is that the pot be attractive, strong and durable, have good drainage, be large enough to hold the right amount of soil for your particular African violet, and have a wide enough base to set firmly where placed.

Upholds Merits Of Styrofoam Pots

Dora J. Baker
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After reading that splendid article in one of the African Violet Magazines by Mrs. Thomas Lenken of Milwaukee concerning the project conducted by her club involving the different types of pots for growing African violets, I felt called upon to uphold the merits of my favorite African violet pot — the Styrofoam one.

I wish more clubs would conduct tests of all phases of growing our favorite plant.

I know many people prefer clay pots and I certainly wish to hurt no feelings nor to make members feel dissatisfied with what they are now using. I remember the days when we used clay pots and dipped the rim of each in paraffin. This was to keep the petioles from rotting as they touched the rim of the pot. These pots absorbed,

through capillary action, a great deal of the salts and minerals in the planting medium and something had to be done to protect the petioles from rotting. Paraffin around the rim worked well until we wished to clean and sterilize a used pot — then what a mess we had! Finally we used a strip of foil around the top — fine.

Then along came Styrofoam pots and no more worry about rotting petioles.

Have you ever repotted your favorite show plant — only to break a leaf or two? Now I have no trouble — no digging nor ruination of the gorgeous plant. Simply take a sharp knife and cut the pot from top to bottom — both sides, and you'll have no more heartbreak.

Of Cats, Mites (*Cyclamen*, That Is!)

Mrs. C. W. Beattie
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This horror story is true and, sad to say, it happened to me. Because it was a "first" for me, it seems reasonable to assume there must be many more growers to whom the same thing will happen and, like me, they will be just as confused and upset.

I have a large collection of plants, most of which are grown for exhibition purposes and before leaving for the Atlanta Convention they all looked great. Two weeks after my return, there appeared to be something wrong with them. The centers on some of them appeared to have a slightly grayish cast but the rest of the plant appeared to be normal. Blossoms also appeared normal.

Never having had a plant disease and not being sure what to look for, the books and articles pertaining to pests and diseases were all consulted immediately. Powdery mildew or Red Spider mite it could be. Soil-drenching and spraying with Cygon 2-E was done immediately (previous to this, I had followed a spraying and drenching program with Malathion 50).

Their progress for the next few days was watched carefully but I finally decided that the situation was worsening, rather than improving. Several of my club members with whom I spoke could not help pinpoint the cause either but each one seemed to be worried that it could be cyclamen mite.

One early morning it occurred to me that I was being exceedingly stupid because within a 15-minute drive there was available to me, expert advice. Accordingly, two plants, a large 'Purple Joy' and a small 'Coral Cap' were packed and on their way to the Plant Science Department at the University of Manitoba.

The first professor I encountered happened to be an acquaintance from our local Horticultural Society—often a guest speaker. He was more than astonished to be presented with these plants and my story. At a glance he ruled out mildew and at a closer glance, said they did not appear to have either Red Spider mite or cyclamen mite. However, the microscope was set up and a center leaf from each plant placed under it. There were no mites visible but he suggested that I leave them and they would be examined more thoroughly the next day by a gentleman who is presently doing special research on cyclamen mites in strawberry plants. He also suggested that I embark immediate-

ly upon a spraying program with Kelthane on all of the plants in my collection.

We were both aware that Kelthane is no longer obtainable, being on the banned list, but by telephoning various outlets, were able to obtain a product called DICOFOL (strangely enough, it smells exactly like Kelthane) which I purchased on the way home. It is to be used 4½ tsp. per gallon of tepid water.

That evening was the last meeting of our violet club for the season so just before it ended, I spoke to the members telling them what had happened to me and what I was going to do about it, suggesting perhaps, as a precaution, they might want to do the same thing.

Before leaving for the meeting, I had gathered up all the necessary equipment including a large pressure sprayer which is used in my garden, tweezers, a spoonknife, a mask (made from a pair of panty hose, several thicknesses of paper toweling and a piece of plastic), rubber gloves and the oldest clothes in my wardrobe (this was the easiest part of the preparation). The reason for the pressure sprayer was because it has a wand and will adjust to the degree of spray or mist required.

Our house is designed in such a manner that the back door opens on to the stairs leading to the basement and on the basement wall directly opposite the door there is a window. Before commencing work, these were opened wide and the door to the main part of the house closed.

As each plant was taken from its shelf, all buds, bloom stalks, the four small leaves in the crown and part of the crown were removed (the spoonknife was used for this latter job). The spray was then directed between each layer of leaves, underneath the last layer and directly into the crown. As each plant was finished, it was placed, dripping wet, on the floor.

It was a discouraging, back-breaking chore. In the midst of it all, whilst in the crouching position on the floor, there seemed to be a motion of something before my eyes. Terrified, because the back door was wide open, I froze. Wildly I thought that the only defense against whatever it might be was the sprayer in my hand and it seemed to me that a good shot of Dicofol would do as much harm as any other weapon. Taking a firm grip on the handle, still in a crouch (by this time the message

from brain to back was that this position promised to be permanent), I squeezed the handle and aimed the wand — right at a huge, very pregnant-looking black cat which streaked up the stairs like a shot.

Extremely weary and slightly shaken by this incident, I finished the plants and all the pans of leaves, many of which had small plantlets ready for potting. The basement floor was now covered with this mess and the time was 2:45 a.m.

The plants remained on the floor for two days during which time everything surrounding them was thoroughly washed and disinfected. They were then placed back on the shelves but seven days later were given another spraying, as soon as the lights went off. This program now continues at 10-day intervals.

The University subsequently confirmed the presence of cyclamen mite which they found by splitting the crown of each plant with a penknife and placing it under a microscope.

It was an interesting experience watching the comeback of the plants because I really did not think they would survive such drastic treatment. They not only survived, but in about three weeks a little green began appearing in the crown. The remainder of the leaves on each plant looked beautiful, green and shining. The plant, as a whole, made me think of a young man with a fringe of luxuriant hair surrounding a bald spot (young men looked like this before hair implants and hair pieces, of course).

Gradually the crown leaves appeared but, along with them, something extra and unwanted—suckers—by the dozen on every plant. It was a daily chore to keep them removed and, as the new leaves grew larger, difficult to differentiate between suckers and bloom stalks. We had a show coming up the end of August and I was determined to enter some of these plants.

Entry night of the show arrived (August 25) and so did I, with 23 of these plants. Many of them won awards and one, a sport of 'Garnet Elf', won best in show. The competition this year was fierce because we have many excellent growers.

We all know that it is easier to fight the known rather than the unknown so with the help of the University and our provincial entomologist I set out to learn as much as possible about cyclamen mite.

Did you know, for instance, that each female mite deposits about 90 eggs, of which some 80% develop into females and that the life cycle from egg to adult requires about 2 weeks, and all stages of the mite are found about the foliage of infested plants? They are about 1/100 inch long and can-

not be seen without magnification. They do all their nasty work in the dark so you can just imagine them breeding and then chomping their merry way through your plants the moment the lights are turned off. Canadians usually like American imports but this is one we could have done without for it is an imported species first noticed in New York in 1898 and in Canada in 1908. The eggs, incidentally, are laid about the base of the plant and in the buds.

Have you been in the habit of bringing lettuce, carrots, strawberries, etc., from the store and, in the kitchen sink washing them all very carefully, then patting your hands dry with, perhaps a paper towel? This was one of the questions put to me by these experts. My reply, of course, was "yes." The next question was "And have you often walked directly to your plants and perhaps removed a spent blossom or straightened a leaf?" Again, my answer was "yes." This, it seems, is the easiest way to contact cyclamen mite. We have all been so careful with our garden flowers but really didn't think of this.

Perhaps someone will be helped by this article, and I would hope that from now on, whenever you think you have contacted a disease, please play fair with your fellow club-members and tell them about it immediately. Having a plant disease is nothing to be ashamed of and, by not telling them, you may cause them to have the same infestation. Always ask for help if you are in doubt. I found that everyone I contacted was delighted to help and very interested in the progress of the plants.

As I examine the plants from day to day, occasionally a question pops into my mind and I don't suppose there will ever be an answer to it. What do you think happened to the litter of kittens? Do you suppose they were normal, sports or mutants?

CRATES

When bringing plants to a show, don't ever, ever use fruit or vegetable crates unless these have been thoroughly washed or soaked in Clorox, says Kay Nevin. "Bugs", she continued, "like the leaves of violets just as much as they do vegetables and fruits. Ask any aphid!! If any are still lurking around, almost before you can say Delft Imperial, they will reduce your beautiful show plant to something only fit for the incinerator. I know, because it happened to me. So play it safe . . . use only safe carriers for your plants."

Green thumb! Rub with fresh lemon or strong solution of bleach. Presto — white thumb.



A Foote on the Violet Path

By Grace Foote

Sometimes I wonder if we appreciate our African violets as much as we should. Recently I was entertaining our garden club at a luncheon in my home. Another member, who was to be co-hostess with me, was to arrange the centerpieces for the large table and two smaller tables where 20 guests were to be seated. Three days before the day of the luncheon, she was taken to the hospital. I was so busy preparing for the luncheon I had forgotten about centerpieces until a few minutes before the members were to arrive. I wasn't a bit perturbed. I calmly walked upstairs to my violet-workroom, picked up 'Highland Fling' and 'Yankee Cheer', which were in full bloom, put some foil around them and used them as a centerpiece for the large table. On the two smaller tables I used 'Country Music' and 'Sugar Blues'. The whole luncheon conversation was about African violets! . . . The argument continues. Now we've been told by one of the world's leading plant physiologists, Washington State University Prof. Noe Higginbotham, that plants are not attuned to other living creatures nor do they have extrasensory perception! He says African violets as well as other plants don't give a hoot about your whispering sweet nothings to them or exposing them to your favorite music. He says he's gone to great lengths to prove you'll only get a broken heart if you talk to your plant and expect an answer. 'Member when Cleve Backster spoke at our AVSA convention and told us how he'd used a polygraph machine to prove that plants possess something closely akin to feelings or emotions? 'Member when he said he found that plants could read his mind, since when he seriously thought of testing the effect of fire on the plant, a recorder needle monitoring it bounded off the chart before he could reach for a match? Well, Prof. Higginbotham contends that electrical charges are released by cells in plants, that the charges are a result of separation of electrical charges in the process of ion diffusion or active transport, and that the circulation of these ions in the plant is adequate to account for many of the electrical signals observed. "It's that simple", he says. So now take your pick. What do your plants say? . . . Then another thing we learned was that "dying is what African violets like to do best. They can't wait to get to plant heaven." Can you imagine anyone saying that about America's No. 1 houseplant? Yet we read such an article in a newspaper in which Felice Dickson, the writer, explained: "African violets? Not your typical swinger's

flower. Who wants to get involved with something that finds a windowsill satisfying? Plenty of people, of course, many of whom never meant to grow violets but were given a plant and were thrilled out of their minds when it didn't die. For dying is what African violets like to do best." But then Ms. Dickson did point out that "their second talent is flowering more than any other living thing needs to. It is the promise of sharing in this soul-lifting explosion of merry color that has resulted in the situation we have today. There are at least some 3,000 different hybrids of the plant available in this country . . . and if you can't give them exactly what they want you'd be better off with a plastic dahlia. For everything has to be just so for a violet — light, temperature, humidity, ventilation, watering and fertilizing. There are some people — aunts, usually — who claim they give their perfectly formed, endlessly flowering violets 'no special care'. But aunts lie, too", so she says. We're sure, of course, that there are thousands and thousands of African violet growers who don't agree with her. But why argue? Let's just keep growing better and better violets and enjoy them as we always have.

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J. H. Vance, executive director of Cooper Green Hospital of Birmingham, AL is of the opinion that members of the African Violet Study Club of Birmingham "are playing an important part in making the world a more beautiful place by growing magnificent violets."

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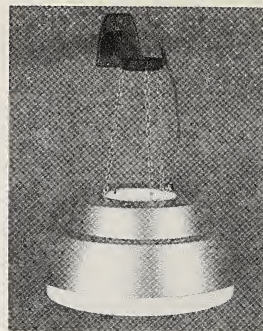
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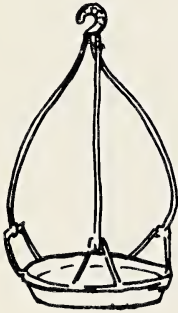
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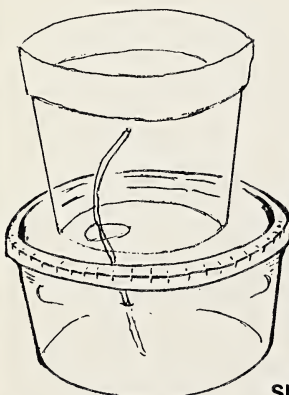
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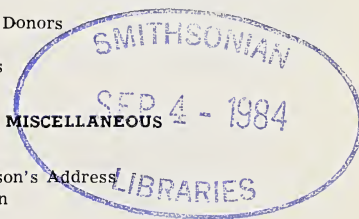
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OUR COVER

'Melva Nelson' is featured on our cover page. This lovely African violet was named in honor of AVSA President Melva Nelson and hybridized by Edd Stretch Smith of St. Louis, MO. The violet, which has just been registered by Mr. Smith, will be shown for the first time as a new introduction at the St. Louis convention at which Mrs. Nelson will preside. (Photo by Lois Newton Russell)

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BEST VARIETIES, HONOR ROLL COMPILER

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San Jose, CA 95127

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STRICTLY BUSINESS - - YOUR BUSINESS

A TABLE OF INFORMATION TO USE IN CONDUCTING YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO INSURE GOOD SERVICE.

ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS, IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM
SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON.

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Editor.

AFFILIATES: See list in Nov. issue. For information on show awards, how to start a chapter or questions on new or renewal membership, write Mrs. Talbot A. Freie, 4854 N. Cedar St., El Monte, CA 91732. Send officer information sheet received with charter to Mrs. Freie by July 1.

AVSA EMBLEMS: See January issue. Member, Past President, Life Member pins. Own and wear them with pride. Order from AVSA office.

AVSA OFFICE: Mrs. Wade H. Bell, Office Manager, Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901

BEST VARIETIES LIST: See November issue.

BEST VARIETIES - HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Mrs. M. G. Gonzales, 200 Doris Ave., San Jose, CA 95127

BOOSTER FUND: Send contributions to Mrs. W. M. Plaster, 8304 Suffolk Dr., Shreveport, LA 71106

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contribution, club or individual, to Mrs. L. F. Lidiak, 4503 Sinclair Ave., Austin, TX 78756

BYLAWS: See September issue.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Albert Buell, Buell's Greenhouses, Box 218, Eastford, CN 06242

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS: See list in November issue.

CONVENTION:

AWARDS: See January issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061

PROGRAM: See March issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson, R. R. 1, Box 70, Tavares, FL 32778

SCHEDULE: See January issue.

TIME AND PLACE: If your club or a group of clubs would like to sponsor a national convention in your area, write to Mrs. H. Harold Baker, 2182 Stanford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

CULTURE FOLDERS: Free from AVSA office, for distribution at shows or by commercial members with plants. Membership application included.

CUMULATIVE INDEX: Write AVSA Office.

EDITOR: Mrs. Grace Foote, 211 Allien Pl., Port Arthur, TX 77640

HONOR ROLL: See June issue.

JUDGES: See September issue for list

JUDGING SCHOOL: For information on holding a school or to become a qualified judge, write to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918

LIBRARY: See June issue for list of slide programs and packets available from AVSA Library. Order from AVSA office. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate for library, write Mrs. Marvin Garner, 1010 Edgewood S.E., North Canton, OH 44720

LIFE MEMBERS: See June issue for list.

MAGAZINE:

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates, copy and information write Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, 438 Brady Lane, Austin, TX 78746

ARTICLES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINE DATES: June issue, Mar. 1; Sept. issue, June 1; Nov. issue, Aug. 1; Jan. issue, Oct. 1; Mar. issue, Dec. 1.

BACK ISSUES: Complete your set now. Write to AVSA office for price list of available issues.

BINDERS: Sold only in pairs at \$7.00 postpaid. Order from AVSA office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send your new address at least 30 days before it is to take effect. Send old address with the new. Enclose the address label from your last magazine. Send to AVSA office.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE: Notify the AVSA office.

MAGAZINE MART: Do you want to buy or sell back copies of THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE? Write Mrs. E. A. Nelson, 603 E. Essex Ave., St. Louis, MO 63122

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A must for all judges and serious growers. 1970 edition describes all registered varieties 1948 - 1969; all classified species; other named cultivars introduced 1960-69. \$3.50 Order from AVSA office. Supplements, September magazine, 1970 to date.

SUPPLEMENT: Send description of any new cultivar with hybridizer's name to Mrs. Fred Tretter, 4988 Schollmeyer Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109

MEMBERSHIP: Send new or renewal membership to AVSA Treasurer, AVSA office. Make check payable to AVSA. Life - \$100; Commercial - \$15; Individual - \$6; Affiliate Chapter - \$6; Affiliate Council, State or Region - \$15. **FOR AFFILIATE, GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:** Name of chapter or council; President's name and address; address to which magazine is to be sent; name of town considered home town of chapter.

APPLICATIONS AND BROCHURES: Free from AVSA office. Please state quantity required. Use for show, commercial sales room or wherever memberships may be solicited.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send your ideas, offers to help or requests for assistance in this work to Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, 4463 W. Seneca Tpk., Syracuse, NY 13215

MINIATURE AND SEMIMINIATURE LIST: \$2.00 Mrs. Sidney Bogin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach, NY 11561

MINUTES: See September issue.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: See Jan. issue.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES: See June issue.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. Robert Hamilton, Meadow Lakes, Apt. 18-06, Hightstown, NJ 08520

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, 4605 N W 45th St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319 is available to answer parliamentary questions from affiliates. (Stamped self-addressed envelope must be enclosed for reply).

PLANT REGISTRATION: Mrs. Fred Tretter, 4988 Schollmeyer Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109

QUESTION BOX: Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

RESEARCH: Send suggested subjects for scientific research or names of interested qualified potential research personnel to Mr. Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

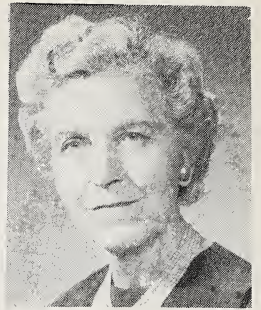
SHOWS & JUDGES RULES: See November issue.

TALLY TIME: See March issue.

TEACHERS: See November issue for list.

TREASURER'S & AUDITOR'S REPORT: See Sept. issue.

Musings From The President



Dear Friends:

Looking out my kitchen window there's quite an argument going on between a feisty bluejay and a grackle for the best seat at the bird feeder beyond the redbud tree. As they jockey for choice pecking rights at the sunflower seeds, an unflappable little sparrow just keeps right on enjoying his breakfast as he seems to say, "Aren't you silly to waste time fussing about who was there first, instead of just moving over and both of you could be having some of these delicious seeds." There must be a lesson here for all of us.

At any rate, it is good to hear the birds starting to sing again as they usher in that wonderful season — SPRING, a season of never-ending magic as nature renews itself. In St. Louis, Mother Nature really puts on a dazzling show each spring, as trees, shrubs and flowers burst forth in riotous color. We hope to share this beauty with you when you come to convention next month. Surely you've made your reservations by now.

It was my pleasure to visit the Knoxville office in late fall and what an education that was! Clarice Bell and her two co-workers handle a volume of paper work that is mind-boggling. AVSA now has a whopping total of 22,550 plus members and every last one is recorded on card and plate in that crowded 3-room office. Each morning Clarice goes to the Post Office for the mail — how early this is I'm not going to tell you, because the Labor Board might be listening and put us on the carpet for unfair labor relations, or something' — and it is a voluminous collection of letters. The nice ones are those containing new membership — almost 100 during my visit. This means the girls go right to work punching out the name plates on our fine new Addressograph machine, which makes far too much noise in such close quarters, but is a far cry from the old hand-operated model they had to contend with prior to this year.

Then the not-so-nice letters concern complaints about magazines which failed to reach members because somehow or other the Post Office managed to lose them. So the Knoxville office must mail a duplicate copy immediately.

Also there are complaints about Library programs failing to reach a club on time. Now, no one will argue that such a happening doesn't present an embarrassing situation for a Program Chairman and no one regrets it more than Clarice Bell. Disappointments are often due to the fact that slide programs weren't ordered sufficiently early, or that clubs fail to return the slides immediately after using them, thus fouling up the schedule for re-mailing to the next club. Granted there have been disappointments, but if you will observe the proper time sche-

dules in ordering and returning the slides, it will be much easier for the office to maintain a schedule. And, above all, please be sure to return them by first class mail in a properly wrapped package. It was amazing to learn how carelessly some packages are returned — poorly wrapped, or not wrapped at all, and then sent with the least postage possible. Please do your part and everyone will be happier.

The office, under Clarice Bell's supervision, does a fantastic job and for too long a time has received little recognition, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to salute them.

Good work — Knoxville crew!

Sincerely,

Melva

Easy Way To Grow African Violets

Mrs. E. H. Dixon
1906 South Blake
Stockton, MO 65785

I have a very easy way to care for my African violets. My husband built wooden benches about three feet high and two feet wide against one wall in our basement which provide about 28 feet of bench space. Seven 48-inch fluorescent fixtures light the benches. Each fixture, the kind advertised by discount houses, has a reflector and two 40-watt bulbs.

The benches are covered first with a plastic cloth. On top of this, oil drain pans measuring two feet wide, three feet long and one and one half inches deep are placed and filled with water. Plastic woven bread trays, used by the bread men to deliver to the markets, about the same size as the oil drain pans are placed over the water filled pans.

My violet plants are wicked with nylon hose strips which reach through the plastic trays into the water in the pans. This method also provides extra humidity for the plants. This is really the easy way to raise violets.

See Page 3, "Strictly Business—Your Business", for names of persons to whom you are to send questions or any matters pertaining to AVSA. Page 3 is an AVSA Directory! Use it!

BEGINNER'S COLUMN



Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson
RR# 1, Box 70
Tavares, Florida 32778

KEEP 'EM CLEAN!

Among the "probers" we talk about to produce good plants we list "cleansing". Just as the pores of your body need to be clean in order to breathe and help you feel well, a plant too must breathe, which it cannot do when it is dirty or dusty. Take a soft brush and gently brush the leaves until all dust and particles of soil, etc are gone.

In spite of all that has been said about watering from the bottom so that the leaves of a plant do not get wet, plants do love a bath and periodic baths together with proper humidity will give them that healthy look that show plants always have. Under tepid running water, hold the plant sideways and keep moving it round and round under the water until all the outside leaves are clean. If soil is so loose that it might fall out, cover with foil. The inside leaves should be clean since they are new and have not had time to get too dirty. Therefore do not allow the water to get into the crown. It is difficult to get the crown dry and sometimes water allowed to settle in the crown will cause it to turn grey. After the bath, take a damp sponge and gently mop the excess water. Keep the plant away from sun and drafts until dry.

Pots should always be sterilized and cleansed. I throw mine in a tub filled with water and detergent to soak, then wash again in bleach and rinse and allow to dry. Never, ever use a pot a second time without cleansing it.

Of course, it goes without saying that shelves and window sills should be kept clean of spilled soil and fallen blossoms.

Use only sterilized soil and use it only once. Be careful where you keep your sterilized soil so that it does not become contaminated by contact with an unclean medium.

If you suspect that a plant may have a disease be sure to move it away from your other plants and be very, very sure to wash your hands whenever you handle it. I know of several instances where hands have carried mites from one plant to another.

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MYSTICAL BLUE—Wisteria blue semi-dbl. flowers.

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ROYAL BLUE RUFFLES (RY)—deepest dark blue violet shaped, white edge

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SAPPHIRE TRINKET (EC) sapphire blue dbl., semi-min, variegated foliage

LITTLE LULU (LL)—semi min T/L foliage, rosy pink dbl., rosette forming

LI'L CRITTER (LL)—dbl. pink amazing abundance of blooms, semi min

LOVE NOTES (LL)—fuchsia pink stars with fuchsia eye, white dogwood tips

LUCKY LOU (LL)—semi trailer with T/L foliage, dbl. blue masses of blooms

LORA LOU (LL)—semi min trailer T/L foliage, dbl., rosy pink blooms

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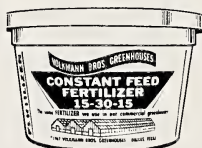
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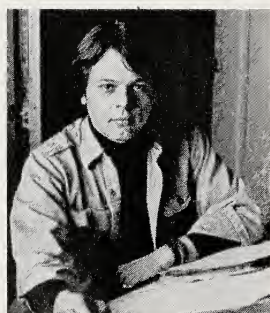


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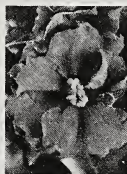
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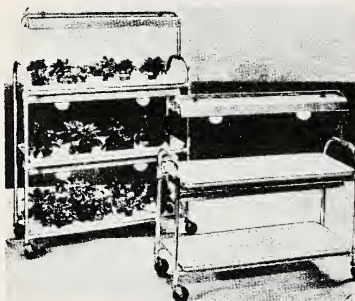
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"Easter Bunny"

*Exhibited by Molly Kosik at the
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(Photos by Burton)

Picture below shows closeup of blossoms.



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WHAT IS A CUTTING?

By definition, a cutting is a severed part of a plant which will produce a new plant like the parent in color and size. Not all kinds of plants can be grown from cuttings, but many can.

Different parts of plants—all the so-called vegetative parts, the stems, roots, and leaves—are used in different species. According to their nature, some plants are best started from pieces of stem (many shrubs and perennials). This is called a stem cutting which may be softwood, sometimes referred to as greenwood which is taken during the growing season, or hardwood which is taken after growth matures.

Root or rootstock cuttings are made from such plants as blackberries and Oriental poppies.

Leaf cuttings are made from leaves or even parts of leaves from plants having thick leaves such as African violets, rex begonias and many succulents.

African violets are propagated in any of three ways: from seed, by division, but mainly from leaf cuttings. The African violet is a good example of reproduction by leaf cuttings. A detached leaf is placed with a part of the petiole (leaf stalk) in water, or preferably in a propagating medium such as vermiculite, perlite, sand, sphagnum moss, or a combination of such materials. Roots will appear and later one or many small plantlets appear. The small plantlets are separated and grown on as a new plant.

Plants grown from leaf cuttings usually look like the parent. Occasionally a single leaf may go haywire and produce plants that bear different color flowers or produce different kinds of leaves. These are known as mutations.

Have you ever wondered about the miraculous change whereby a plant can be reproduced from a single leaf? Warm blooded animals are not able to produce a new animal from a severed part. How do plants do this?

Microscopic study has revealed that the roots arise from parenchyma cells (either in the stalk or in the blade of the leaf) which lie near the vascular cells of the veins. The parts which produce the new top growth come from cells of the epidermis;

more highly differentiated cells but still evidently capable of dedifferentiation.

When the piece of stalk is cut, some chemical and physical changes, the nature of which is as yet unknown, stimulate certain parenchyma cells within the stalk to start dividing. The cells at the cut surface begin to divide, forming a mass of cells which covers the cut end. The layer which closes the wound is called the callus.

For success with any leaf cutting, it is important to keep the air moist so as to reduce water loss to a minimum, maintain suitable temperature, and give light but not direct sunlight.

Commercial growers may offer a leaf cutting (a leaf which is fresh-cut from a plant); a rooted cutting (one which has started to develop); or a clump (the group of small plantlets developed from a leaf cutting). Often these names are carelessly interchanged. To know the vocabulary of violet growing is to understand the specific terms.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Melva Nelson, AVSA president, is delighted with the number of African violet growers who are taking out AVSA life memberships.

Newest member to be welcomed into this AVSA group is Mrs. George F. Behrens of Adams, NE 68301.

Also being welcomed into AVSA Life membership are Mrs. Harold Hall, Rt. 1, Peno Penobwquis, New Brunswick, Canada E0E-1L0 and Mrs. Haradelle E. Downing, 1400 West Fir Avenue, Oxnard, CA 93030, both of whom were enrolled in December.

Also just received in the late mail from Mexico was a Life Membership for Jaime Piza, Jr., of Calzada del Ejercito, 1475 S.R., Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. We are always glad to welcome our neighbors "South of the Border" as Life Members.

Melva Nelson, AVSA president, welcomes David Hicks as one of the AVSA's newest Life members. Mr. Hicks lives at 2338 S. Hearth Drive Condo 39, Evergreen, CO 80439.

CORRECTION

In the article, "Diz-Dizbudding" by Miss Sandra Lex of Toronto, Canada, reference was made to the amount of fertilizer used by Miss Lex. It should have read $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon rather than $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon to a gallon of water every watering.

DO NOT HANDLE---

*Edd Stretch Smith
4136 Flora Place
St. Louis, MO 63110*

TEMIK®! Do not even go into an area where TEMIK® has been used for at least 45 days! Such strict warnings do not come from an alarmist but rather from those who are concerned about life: Your life!

Speaking at a seminar on pesticides, sponsored by the Chemical Council of Greater St. Louis, held at the Missouri Botanical Gardens, Dr. Goddard, Asst. Professor of Plant & Soil Sciences, U. of Mass., Amherst, discussed the lethal properties of TEMIK® at length. "A single drop of this product if added to the water system of New York City has the potential of killing the entire population of that great metropolis", he stressed.

Explaining how labels on pesticides are worded and what the words mean, Dr. Goddard explained that the effectiveness of all dangerous products are measured by what is known as "L-T-D". This is an abbreviation of Lethal Test Dosage which is the amount fatal to a human being. It does not always have to be taken internally and we will come to that.

When a label reads: CAUTION, the L-T-D is three teaspoonfuls or more; labels stating: WARN-

ING, indicate the L-T-D to be from one to three teaspoonfuls; and ones reading: DANGER, show that an amount of only one drop to one teaspoonful is a proven lethal dosage. One of these three words—CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER—is always used. Learn them well.

A most dangerous and frightening property of TEMIK®,—and one often misunderstood by amateur growers, is that it vaporizes. When this vapor comes into contact with human skin it crystallizes and, through absorption of the skin, a microscopic amount entering the body is more, far more, than enough to kill. It isn't a game of chance where it may or may not crystallize, it does crystallize! It is this external exposure which was referred to in paragraph 3. (The reader is requested to refer to *African Violet Magazine*, Vol 29, No. 5, November, 1976.)

Perhaps this lethal product is available only to licensed professional growers in your state, but in the writer's state of Missouri, and in some immediate surroundings, as of this writing it has been and continues to be obtainable to non-professionals. May they be delivered!

Pickup Sticks for Plants

*Kenneth Keipert
4430 Burger Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109*

Often times we receive helpful hints from the *African Violet Magazine*, and at other times the hints might come from the strangest places.

While I was fixing my violets in my office in the junior high school that I work at (Patrick Henry Junior High School, Cleveland, Ohio) one of my students asked why was I putting toothpicks in the plants. I tried to explain the purpose. The student said I didn't seem happy with the results, and I wasn't.

She suggested that I try "PICKUP STICKS." I am sure many of you remember playing with them when you were younger. They really work great. They are longer and easier to place among the leaves, etc. They have really provided a 'pickup' to many of the plants.

You can never tell where the next helpful hint

will come from.

I also found that by using plastic leaf guards which you normally put in the gutters on the house, that you are able to set plants above pebbles for humidity which they need. The pots are able to drain and not set in water as they often do on plain pots that are turned upside down. They work beautifully with *Episcias*!!

A VIOLET

by Kate Lang

Dear little violet sitting so still . . . Waiting for someone to tell it what to do . . . Shall I grow tall or shall I grow wide? . . . Shall I show off my blossoms or shall I hide? . . . I think I'm too pretty to hide . . . So I'll let you decide.



*Lyndon
Lyon*

*presents a
new crop
for 1977*

All are beauties

(Photos by Grower)

PURPLE SPOT

CRUNCHER





JET TRAIL

STEPPING OUT





Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

*Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chr. Miniature & Semimini Class
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561*

Many of you will be flying to the convention in St. Louis. Our little minis offer a big advantage for air traveling. The last time the convention was held there, I took my most perfect mini in a tiny hatbox and it won best mini in the show. To bring one plant with you and win with it is a terrific thrill. It can happen to you!

If you have followed the procedures for the care and grooming of prospective show plants in my column in the January issue of AVM, you should have a few beauties to choose from. Make sure that the pot has your name and the name of the plant on it. Cover it with foil, dull side out and please don't put holes in the bottom of the foil. They will leak and make a mess of the show table. Water sparingly to avoid the plant sitting in water. Take your grooming brush, and something to take off last minute dead flowers, nubs and suckers.

Although hats aren't that much in vogue these days, it should be possible to scrounge up a man's hatbox. Take a large piece of cardboard and mark the diameter of the hatbox on it. Space pots around the circle, according to the room the plant or plants will need and cut out these circles. Wedge the cardboard into the hatbox about halfway down. Plastic cleaning bags can be crumbled and

put under the leaves and around each plant to cushion it. Tie an extra cord, opposite to the one on the box, so that it will not swing when carried. The boxes fit very nicely under the plane seats.

St. Louis is big on miniatures and they will be happy to enter as many as you wish to bring. Let's make this convention memorable for having the largest miniature and semiminiature classes ever.

We are working on a new miniature slide program for the AVSA library and would appreciate donations of original slides of any minis or semis that have come out within the last five years or so. Our old miniature program is very much outdated with old, old varieties. All clubs may rent these slides from the library and we hope to have an outstanding one ready by spring. If you have ever taken a slide of a winning mini or one of your prettiest, you can greatly contribute to the program.

The 1975 Miniature and Semiminiature Culture and Variety list is available from me at the price of \$2.00. The 1976 supplement will be sent with it free of charge. If you already have the mini list and just want the supplement, just send me a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Greenhouses In Miniature

*Dolores Kibbe
K-D Ranch, Inc.
816 East First Street
Clovis, NM 88101*

It's always interesting to know how other African violet lovers grow their plants. I'm an amateur and have no greenhouse and only a limited time for my violets' care but I guess I'm hopelessly addicted to the lovely things. I have them all over the place and have an eight-tray Floralite.

In these trays I have about an inch and half of paving pebbles—green in color. I wick feed nearly all my plants and bury the wicks in these pebbles. So it makes it quite simple to mix up a weak solution of fertilizer and fill the trays about two or three times each week. Of course, there is a double value with moisture below the plants and constant

fertilizing.

I also have about a dozen "grow domes" from Gurneys of Yanktown, S.D. and found them quite ideal for rooting leaves. I also wick them and place them over the pebbles with the wicks hidden in the pebbles. The little "grow domes" hold two leaves very nicely. Holes in the domes provide ventilation and I use at least one tray on my Floralite to have a whole bunch of little "greenhouses"! Under the lights they produce little plantlets very quickly.

They are my substitute for a real greenhouse. Sometimes I use these little "grow domes" as gifts. I plant the leaves in a "grow dome", wick it in a margarine "tub" of fertilized water, and present it to a friend so she, too, can enjoy the "miracle of birth."

Aren't violets fun!! and beautiful!!



YOUR LIBRARY

Mrs. M. E. Garner
1010 Edgewood S.E.
North Canton, Ohio 44720

St. Louis, MO, "Gateway To The West", will be our host city for the 1977 convention, April 26 - 30. A new venture for many, a rewarding reunion for many others. One thing is certain, there will be lots of beautiful people there and lots of beautiful African violets. Plan now to give your prize plants their final beauty treatment and carefully prepare their travel boxes — they are going to the St. Louis show.

We look forward to the start of a new year in AVSA. There will be lots of new faces and names to remember, in addition to the wonderful friends we now have. There will also be a few changes. One of these changes will be the Library Chairman. Harvey Stone will be your new Library Chairman. Harvey has been one of the "team" of photographers for our award winning plants at the conventions. His home is Marblehead, MA. He is very interested in the library and will be a very capable and efficient chairman. He is also the Third Vice President of AVSA. We wish you much success Harvey.

From the St. Louis show we hope to add to the library, a new slide program on the award winning plants. Another program from the commercials, on what's new in the violet world and what to expect in the near future. These programs should be ready by July 1, from the Knoxville office, and listed in the June issue of the magazine. Look for them.

We hope you enjoy the new programs and will help others enjoy them too, by carefully following the instructions in the June 1976 issue of the magazine, on page 68. Also, in the January 1977 issue of the magazine under YOUR LIBRARY.

With many new members, the requests have increased and Clarice Bell, in the Knoxville office, is doing a marvelous job scheduling the programs and materials for your use. We want you to use them. They are there to help you and your society prepare your programs. PLEASE she needs your help and cooperation in returning them promptly to the office . . . or as she directs, so that all schedules will be kept. When slide programs are held over . . . even one day . . . they can keep several other affiliates from their scheduled use of the

program. Be sure the slide program boxes are wrapped in heavy paper before sending FIRST CLASS MAIL!

THANK YOU for your interest and use of the library materials.

Convention time is not far away - we will see you in St. Louis.

A Real Winner!

"AFRICAN VIOLETS AND THEIR RELATIVES", a handbook from Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, has been extensively revised and is now available. Frances Batcheller, widely known authority on the *Gesneriaceae*, is guest editor of this most informative publication. It is one of the standards in the Plants and Gardens series.

Now revised by authorities and experienced growers, it takes into account some of the changes in nomenclature in this group of plants in recent years. With the increased popularity of fluorescent light gardening in the home, this plant family is becoming much better known among indoor gardeners. Besides the violets (*saintpaulias*) and florist gloxinias (*sinningias*), special chapters are given to *episcias*, *streptocarpus*, *columneas*, and "the minis", as well as to hybridizing; a picture dictionary and a list of suppliers.

The Plants and Gardens handbook series are available by mail, \$1.50 each, postpaid, from Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11225. If you are not already familiar with these garden handbooks, request the list of other titles.

TO COUNTERACT ACID

If you use a lot of peat moss in your soil mix you may find the soil mix becomes more acid as the peat moss decomposes. To counteract this — about once a month water with a solution of one tablespoon of lime water (you buy it in the drug store) to one quart of water.



*Fredette
Bunnies
For
Easter*

(Photos by Grower)

*BARBIE
DOLL*



LU ANN

Micro-propagation Of African Violets

Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt*

(ED. NOTE: This is the 2nd of three articles on "Tissue Culturing African Violets" by Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt. Research was supported by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and by Hatch Project No. 981. The senior author acknowledges with special thanks scholarship support from The Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs and encouragement from Mrs. William Wall in this research)

Millions of plants derived from a single cell is the ultimate objective of micro-propagation. It is fast becoming a reality. Already techniques have been developed to produce as many as 20,000 plantlets from a single African violet leaf in the time that it would normally take a fresh leaf cutting to root and sprout 5 plantlets. Twenty thousand is just the beginning. The potential number of plantlets from a single leaf cutting is unlimited.

Micro-propagation is a complicated process and should perhaps be left to the professional Horticulturists and research scientists who have the time and expensive laboratory equipment needed. Other individuals may attempt the technique provided they have the interest, culture equipment and background knowledge in the methods of tissue culturing.

Micro-propagation involves growing African violet tissue aseptically on an agar or in a liquid medium containing every nutrient needed for good growth. The medium mainly water, sugar and agar, contains major elements (N, P, K, Ca, Mg), trace elements (Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, B), vitamins (niacin, thiamin, pyridoxine), and various hormones (auxins and cytokinins). Agar solidifies the medium making it easy to support the tissue. The auxin hormones stimulate root formation. Cytokinins stimulate cell division and plantlet production. Adjusting the ingredients makes it possible to control the growth of the tissue.

Aseptic conditions are critical for success. The culture media that supports good plant growth unfortunately also stimulates rapid fungal and bacter-

ial growth that may contaminate the isolated plant part. The pathogens act on the plant tissue by direct invasion or indirectly by producing toxins which poison the tissue.

Sterile working conditions are provided by specially constructed transfer chambers. These may be large walk-in rooms or small, box-shaped chambers. The small chambers are usually made out of Plexiglas and are of a size that would easily sit on a table. An inside positive pressured bacterial filter attached to the transfer chamber reduces the number of potentially contaminating bacteria and fungal spores from entering. An added ultraviolet (UV) lamp kills any contamination sources already present in the chamber. Caution must be exercised to turn off the UV light source when tissue work is being done.

All work on sterile tissue such as cutting, dividing plantlets, transferring to fresh media, etc., is done in the transfer chamber. The table top transfer chamber may be placed on a table or bench within another room. This culture room or chamber is also kept extremely clean. The more aseptic the surroundings the less chance for contamination. Table tops are washed with disinfectant and the walls and floor are kept clean with a Clorox solution. The walk-in chamber may be clouded with steam as part of its preparation. The reason is that bacteria and fungal spores cling to the mist of water droplets in the air. A good exhaust fan then removes the steam and the contaminants with it. A small room air conditioner is also desirable for walk-in chambers.

Some commercial tissue culturing companies require their researchers to shower and wear a special sterile surgical gown prior to any tissue culturing work. When a 100% success rate is required, such special procedures must be undertaken.

The tools used for tissue culturing depend upon the type of research being done. Compound microscopes and dissecting microscopes are often used. Alcohol burners or gas Bunsen burners, tweezers, scalpels, and sterile Petri dishes are always used. The metal tools are sterilized by being dipped in

*Peter C. Bilkey — Graduate Student, Department of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

A. C. Hildebrandt — Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

(REFERENCES were published in initial article in January 1977 African Violet Magazine)

alcohol and flamed several times. A damp sterile piece of cheesecloth may be spread on the table in the small transfer chamber on which to work. Any bacteria or fungal spores that touch the damp cloth stick to it. Also any flaming alcohol that drips from the tools while being sterilized, is instantly extinguished by the damp cloth.

When the medium has been prepared and the transfer chambers set up, the tissue must then be prepared. Most parts of the African violet plant can be tissue cultured. Leaf petiole cross-sections often work the best. Young vigorously growing leaves are chosen for this purpose. They are removed very carefully from the plant so as not to damage the petiole, and the leaf is washed in a 1% solution of Alconox. Alconox is a mild detergent that not only washes off dirt particles and insects that might be on the leaf but also acts as a wetting agent. Other detergents could also be used. Because African violet leaves and petioles are pubescent, sterilization is a problem. The wetting agent eliminates air bubbles and lets the Clorox solution penetrate to the tissue surface more easily and therefore, more effectively disinfects the leaf surface. After rinsing, the tissue is then sterilized in a 10% solution of commercial Clorox bleach. Care must be taken, because soaking the tissue too long in the bleach kills it. If it is not soaked long enough, the tissue remains contaminated. Fifteen minutes is usually long enough. In the transfer chamber under sterile conditions, the tissue must be rinsed at least seven times with sterile distilled water. Any traces of Clorox bleach left on the tissue will damage it severely.



Figure 1. Fresh cut 1/8 inch petiole cross-sections of an African violet leaf cutting.

A single cell can theoretically produce an unlimited number of plants. However, the greatest success so far has been with a section of leaf petiole tissue. Leaf petiole cross-sections an eighth of an inch long are ideal. (See fig. 1 & 2). After



Figure 2. Close up of a fresh cut petiole cross-section.

being cut and placed aseptically on the culture media, the tissue shows its first sign of swelling in about a week. The mass of dividing cells (callus) grows rapidly from the cut surface of the petiole section. After the third week it is usually about 1



Figure 3. Close up of a petiole cross-section covered with callus and small differentiated plantlets, age 4-weeks.

inch in diameter. (See fig. 3). The callus growth may then be cut into 8 wedge pieces. It is similar to cutting a pie to serve 8. The callus wedges are then placed on fresh culture media containing a higher amount of cytokinin than the initial growing media. Cytokinins stimulate plantlet production. The callus wedges continue to grow, sprouting between 25 and 50 plantlets per wedge. Tiny clusters can usually be seen a week after being placed on the fresh culture media. (See fig. 4).



Figure 4. Wedge-shaped callus on fresh media with differentiated plantlets, age 5-weeks.



Figure 5. Twenty-five to fifty plantlets ready to be divided and transplanted into soil, age 10-weeks.

When the mass of plantlets has grown to about 2 inches high, the plants are removed from the culture vessels and divided into single plantlets. (See fig. 5). The plantlets are transplanted to sterile African violet soil and treated as they were transplanted seedlings.

Besides the obvious advantage of being able to produce more than 20,000 plants quickly from a single African violet leaf, plantlets grown under sterile conditions are usually totally free of insects and diseases. During the growth period of the callus, no watering, fertilizing or insecticide spraying is needed!

There are some disadvantages to tissue culturing. Micro-propagation of African violets is still in the experimental stages and its use is not yet available to commercial growers. Transfer chambers, balances, microscopes, autoclaves, to name a few, are very expensive. Micro-propagation takes time and involves making the culture media, sterilizing the tissue, transferring and dividing the callus and clumps of plantlets.

Tremendous achievements in science are being made across the country in private labs, government labs and universities. Their application and involvement in the "Violet World" has only just begun. Micro-propagation has been a large step, others will definitely follow.

(To be continued)

HELEN FREIE GIVES UP AVSA POSITION

Helen Freie has resigned as chairman of the AVSA Affiliates Committee. "Ill health this past year has presented me with quite a problem," she explained.

Mrs. Freie's resignation became effective Jan. 31. She has served as Affiliates Chairman for several years and has done an outstanding job. It is with regret that AVSA learned of her resignation.

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

Green Elbows

Sylvia Fellows
4718 Maychelle Drive
Anaheim, CA 92807

Okay, I'm convinced! It's been a long time coming, but finally I believe that wick watering is the only way to go. I've been growing African violets for 15 years or so, trying many different methods during that time.

I started out putting leaves in water to root — that worked, but I frequently lost either the leaves or the plantlets when they were planted in soil. Then I tried planting the leaves in the same potting medium I used for mature plants. That was a little better, but still I couldn't be sure whether that "special" leaf received from a friends' collection would root or rot!

I heard about vermiculite; it sounded good and worked better than the potting soil. Still, there was the unexplainable rotting of the mother leaf. Then a friend recommended starting leaves in a wick-fed container. He used cottage cheese cartons with a strip of nylon stocking through a hole in the container as the wick. I came home that night all afire: maybe NOW every leaf would grow! I put down about 12 or 15 leaves in margarine tubs and a couple of 4-inch pots (4 leaves to each container). The rooting medium was 1/2 vermiculite and 1/2 Sponge Rok. Six weeks later, some of the plantlets were nearly an inch high, and not a leaf was lost. My husband and I decided that the constant moisture in the rooting medium did the trick. The new roots didn't get drowned and dried alternately. They just grew. Now I start all my leaves this way with fantastic success.

Since I was trying wicking for starting leaves, I thought I might as well put a few mature plants on wicks, just for the sake of the experiment. That's why I'm convinced now: the plants on wicks immediately began growing faster and blooming more with bigger flowers. The plants no longer had to suffer the damage of wilting when my heavy performing schedule as a professional musician kept me from watering.

At this point I have only 150 leaves rooting and little plants and big ones threatening to push my husband and my cats right out the door! Husband doesn't mind; he says that I don't have just a Green Thumb, but that I'm Green clear to my elbows! Hmmm . . .

COMING EVENTS must reach the Editor's desk before the deadline dates. See page 3 under **MAGAZINE** for deadline dates.

REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

The following registrations have been received during the period from September 30, 1976 through November 30, 1976.

ERIC (3014) V 3 df S 9/30/76
Union County Chapter, 14 Pelham Rd., Kendall Park, NJ

TENNESSEE APPLE BLOSSOM (3015) L-P 2 sc S 10/20/76

TENNESSEE BLUE MOON (3016) D-B 2 sc S 10/20/76

TENNESSEE PINAFORE (3017) WBCG-E 5 sf S 10/20/76

TENNESSEE MIST (3018) L-PX 2 sc L 10/20/76

TENNESSEE PINK STAR (3019) D-P 2 sc S 10/20/76

Mrs. T. C. Fritz, 4626 Harbor Cir. Kingsport, TN 37664

MILLIE BLAIR (3020) L-BW-E 5 df S 10/26/76

Granger Gardens, Medina, OH 44256

CHINESE DAWN (3021) OX 3 d L 10/26/76

CHINESE MIDNIGHT (3022) V 35 dfc S 10/26/76

Christine D. Leppard, 413 Washington St., Westfield, NJ 07090

MIGHTY MINI (3023) M-B 39 s-dc L 11/3/76

Dorothy Parker Adams, 34543 Avenue C, Yucaipa, CA 92399

ANDROMEDA I (3024) D-PX 2 sc S 11/6/76

FOREST MIST (3025) M-PG-E 59 df S 11/6/76

Lyn D. Robinson, 2749 McDowell Rd., Durham, NC 27705

BALLAD OF DIXIE (3026) WR 29 dc S 11/8/76

BIG LEAGUE (3027) M-B 39 d S 11/8/76

CHATTERBOX (3028) PX 29 s L 11/8/76

CRITERIA (3029) M-P 238 dc S 11/8/76

GOOD MORNING (3030) M-P 239 d S 11/8/76

ILLUMINATION (3031) L-PX 239 dc S 11/8/76

L'AMOUR (3032) M-P 29 d S 11/8/76

LAUVENQUE (3033) OX 39 s-t-d S 11/8/76

LUCILLES DELIGHT (3034) WPC 368 d S 11/8/76

MISS CHARM (3035) D-P 39 dc S 11/8/76

PINK WAVES (3036) M-P 29 dc S 11/8/76

PLUM CREST (3037) R 29 d S 11/8/76

RADIANT (3038) R 29 dc S 11/8/76

ROSE PARADE (3039) M-P 29 dc S 11/8/76

SOMETHING NEW (3040) W 23 d S 11/8/76

SPANGLES (3041) P 239 sc S 11/8/76

SPRAY (3042) L-V-B 358 d S 11/8/76

SURPRISE (3043) BWC 28 dc S 11/8/76

VALENTINE (3044) R 239 dc S 11/8/76

VELVET QUEEN (3045) D-B 239 d S 11/8/76

VERN'S BLUE CHIPS (3046) D-B 29 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S BLUE HEAVEN (3047) M-B 29 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S FLASH (3048) M-BW-E 289 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S FRENCH LACE (3049) BWC 239 d S 11/8/76

VERN'S MASTERPIECE (3050) D-P 239 d S 11/8/76

VERN'S MOONBEAM (3051) L-P 239 s-dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S RED VELVET (3052) D-R 29 d S 11/8/76

VERN'S SUMMER SKIES (3053) L-B 239 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S TELESTAR (3054) BWC 289 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S WHITE CHEER (3055) W 39 d S 11/8/76

VERN'S WHITE KNIGHT (3056) W 239 dc S 11/8/76

VERN'S ZODIE (3057) WRC 239 d M 11/8/76

V. Lorenzen, (Park Nursery) 8400-60th St. No., Stillwater, MN 55082

LIZZY MAE (3058) PX 27 d S 11/15/76

James H. Smith, 946 Cleveland Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14305

SHOMEE CHERRY MINT (3059) D-PX 579 df
S 11/17/76

SHOMEE MINT FLOSS (3060) WP 579 df S
11/17/76

SHOMEE THISTLEDOWN (3061) WO 2 dfc S
11/18/76

Tomara African Violets, RT. 3, Fayette, MO
65248

LIZA T. (3062) W 239 s S 11/18/76
Mrs. Goldie Kinne, 206 N. Indiana Ave., Water-
town, NY 13601

LITTLE BOY BLUE (3063) M-B 2 s S-M
11/23/76

MARY ANN PRITCHET (3064) M-P 2 s-d L
11/23/76

Mrs. J. S. Barnhill, 1108-12th Ave., Midfield,
AL 35228

SWANEE FLAMINGO (3065) PX 39 s S
11/26/76

SWANEE PARTY PINK (3066) PG-E 2 df S
11/26/76

Elmer Swanson, 521 So. 3rd, Lindsborg, KA
67456

LADY JANE (3067) O 23 d L 11/26/76
Mr. Francis V. Delly, 305 W. 13th St., Apt. 4H,
New York, NY 10014

RESERVATIONS

The following reservations have been received
during the same period as above.

CHINESE PORCELAIN * CHINESE MYS-
TERY * CHINESE MAIDEN * CHINESE
BEAUTY * CHINESE SURPRISE * CHINESE
FESTIVAL * CHINESE ARTISTRY 10/22/75

Reserved by Christine D. Leppard, 413 Wash-
ington St., Westfield, NJ

ROYAL DREAM 11/3/76 Reserved by William
G. Hartley, 315 Webster St., Bel Air, MD 21014

STONEWALL PEACH 11/17/76 Reserved by
Sandra Leary, 438 Brady Lane, Austin, TX 78746

SHARON ROCKEFELLER * RUTH ANN *
LARSTINE * STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
11/26/76 Reserved by William F. Wiffen, Box
5155, Capital Station, Charleston, WV 25311

(NOTE TO REGISTRANTS: The Editor would

like to use color slides of your newly registered
violets in the Magazine. Use only light back-
grounds. Dark slides cannot be reproduced. Send
original color slides to Editor with name of plant
and name of hybridizer.)

HOOKED FOR LIFE

Marceline Koester
161-15 29th Avenue
Flushing, NY 11358

In April of 1975 when I was slowly recuperat-
ing from spinal disc surgery and wearing my arm in
a sling because of a "frozen shoulder", my darling,
patient husband took me on a rare outing to the
spring show held by the AVS of Greater New
York. This affair took place at the Queens Botani-
cal Gardens in Flushing, New York.

Although I had always had three or four Afri-
can violets growing and blooming intermittently, I
had never realized the potential of these plants
until I saw the marvels displayed at this show. I
joined the organization at their very next meeting.
This was the first stage in what was to become an
incurable addiction!

I bought young plants, leaves, etc. at the show
and promptly went to work. Due to my physical
limitations I dropped many a pot, spilled soil, etc.
but despite this I was encouraged to continue as it
became apparent this was the best therapy for me,
both physical and emotional. I started with a small
table and a 48" light fixture which I soon outgrew.
Next step was a three-tier FloraCart.

The "disease" spread rapidly as my new friends
in the club supplied me with many new varieties of
leaves to start. In addition to my original set-up I
now have 18' of table growing area, lit by two 8'
fixtures in our basement, and am at present grow-
ing in excess of 200 plants despite the fact that I
have already given away at least 150 plants to my
husband's clients upon the opening of our new
office and to friends and new neighbors.

This past April, despite insecurity as to the
quality of my plants, I entered six plants and an
artistic planting in the 1976 spring show. To my
amazement I won four Blue Ribbons, three "Best
In Class", three Red Ribbons plus the Novice
Trophy and Trophy for Best Rhapsodie. I just
stood there and cried in disbelief.

Again I was hospitalized for further spinal sur-
gery but was not worried about the care and feed-
ing of my "babies". I left them in the hands of a
dear son-in-law, whom you see, has also contracted
a severe case of the addiction commonly known as
"African Violet Fever".

REGISTERED AFRICAN VIOLETS

The African Violet Society of America, Inc.

December 1, 1975 to December 1, 1976

AVSA Registrar Mrs. Fred Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, Missouri 63109

All varieties registered from 1949 through June 1, 1976 may be found in the MASTER VARIETY LIST VOLUME No. 3.

Code: Color, Leaf Type, Flower Type and Plant Size

COLOR

B - Blue	O - Orchid, Mauve,
C - Multicolor	Lavender
(s2 or more colors)	P - Pink, Rose
D - Dark	R - Red, Maroon,
E - Edge	Plum, Burgundy
G - Green	V - Violet, purple
L - Light	W - White, Cream, Blush
M - Medium	X - Two-tone, 2 hues
	of same color
	Y - Yellow

LEAF TYPE

1 - Longifolia or spider	7 - Variegated
2 - Plain, Tailored	8 - Spooned,
3 - Quilted	Ovate,
4 - Girl, Semi-girl	Cupped-up
5 - Ruffled, Fringed	9 - Pointed
Wavy, Fluted	Compound
6 - Supreme	or Piggyback

FLOWER TYPE

s - Single
d - Double
s-d - Semi-double
c - Star shaped
f - Fringed, Ruffled
s-t-d - Single to double
w - Wasp type

PLANT SIZE

M - Miniature (6" or under)
S-M - Semiminiature (6" - 8")
S - Standard (Over 8")
L - Very Large (Over 16")
M-T - Miniature Trailer
S-T - Standard Trailer

Name	Reg. No.	Date Reg.	Applicant	Code
A				
Alouette	2787	2/17/76	Irene Fredette	P 57 df L
Amy Anderson	2775	12/27/75	Mrs. W. E. Anderson	WV-E 5 sf S
Andromeda I	3024	11/6/76	Lyn D. Robinson	D-PX 2 s c S
Angel's Petticoats	2778	1/29/76	Mrs. W. F. Anderson	M-PX 38 s-df S
Anna (See Ballet Anna)				
Apple Blossom (See Tennessee Apply Blossom)				
Arpegge' Minuet	3009	9/22/76	Mrs. A. Belanger	P 79 df S

B

Ballad of Dixie	3026	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	WR 29 dc S
Ballet Anna	2890	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	M-PX 2 sf S
Ballet Christina	2891	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	M-B s&df S
Ballet Erica	2892	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	V 35 s&s-df S
Ballet Eva	2893	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	D-QX 3 s-d S
Ballet Heidi	2894	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	VX 3 s S
Ballet Helga	2895	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	L-V 3 s-d S
Ballet Inge	2896	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	D-V 35 sf S
Ballet Karla	2897	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	VX 25 sf S
Ballet Lisa	2898	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	L-V 2 sf S
Ballet Marta	2899	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	VX 2 s&s-df S
Ballet Meta	3000	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	V 35 s S
Ballet Ulli	3001	9/20/76	Geo J. Ball Inc.	V 25 sf S
Beau Philip (See Suzy's Beau Philip)				
Because	2837	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	L-P 5 s-d L
Beginner's Luck	2803	3/9/76	Mrs. R. L. Pritchett	M-PX 29 s&d S-M
Bicentennial Trail	2882	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	D-P 2 dc S-T
Big League	3027	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-B 39 d S
Blue Chips (See Vern's Blue Chips)				

Blue Heaven (See Vern's Blue Heaven)
Blue Moon (See Tennessee Blue Moon)
Bonnie May (See Suzy's Bonnie May)
Brett Steven (See Suzy's Brett Steven)

C

California Sunrise	2834	5/10/76	C. E. Wilson	RW-E 57 df S
Cameo Queen (See Granger's Cameo Queen)				
Carol	3002	9/20/76	Union Co. Chapter	O-P 35 df S
Charisma	2820	4/22/76	House of Violets	VW-E 6 d S
Chatterbox	3028	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	PX 29 s L
Cherished Hope	2805	3/29/76	House of Violets	P-W 3 df S
Cherokee Fire	2883	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	L-R 27 dc S
Cherry Hill	2804	3/15/76	R. Yerman	R 2 dc S-M
Cherry Mint (See Shomee Cherry Mint)				
Chinese Dawn	3021	10/26/76	Christine Leppard	OX 3 d L
Chinese Midnight	3022	10/26/76	Christine Leppard	V 35 dfc S
Christi Love	2884	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	L-P 5 dc S
Coral Belle	2776	1/5/76	Tinari GH	D-PW-E 239 d S
Christina (See Ballet Christina)				
Criteria	3029	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-P 238 dc S
Crocus	2838	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	PX 9 s-d S

D

Delta Dawn	2821	4/22/76	House of Violets	D-P 3 df S
Dick Bell	2819	4/21/76	Martha Tucker	L-BX 2 s M
Dixie Dandy	2806	3/9/76	House of Violets	P 35 d L
Duffy	2832	4/26/76	V. M. Ozimek	V 27 d S
Dum Dum	2839	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	V 2 d L
Dutchman	2840	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	M-B 35 s-dc L
Dutch Miss	2841	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	PX 3 d L
Dutch Stars	2842	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	BWC 35 s-dc L

E

Eileen	2801	2/25/76	Mrs. C. J. Donald Jr	L-B 5 df S
Engaged	2843	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	P 23 s-dc L
Eric	3014	9/30/76	Union County Ch.	V 3 df S
Erica (See Ballet Erica)				
Eva (See Ballet Eva)				
Evelyn Beaird	2889	9/13/76	Judith Richey	OW-E 359 s-df S

F

Fair Fax	2781	2/3/76	Mrs. E. Kramer	D-R 57 d L
First Snow	2877	8/9/76	Arthur Hill	W 23 d S
Flamingo (See Swanee Flamingo)				
Flash (See Nern's Flash)				
Flower Power	2822	4/22/76	House of Violets	R-P 3 df S
Forest Mist	3025	11/6/76	Lyn D. Robinson	M-PG-E 59 df S
French Lace (See Vern's French Lace)				
French Lilac	2844	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	ORC 35 df L
Futuristic	2845	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	PW-E 28 d L

G

Gale's Gift	2784	2/4/76	Mrs. Gale Tucker	OX 2 s S
Gertha (See Suzy's Gertha)				
Glen H	2003	9/20/76	Union County CH.	D-B 29 dc S
Good Morning	3030	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-P 239 d S
Grace G (See Suzy's Grace G)				
Granada (See Granger's Granada)				
Grandson	2878	8/9/76	A. F. Hill	R 23 d S
Granger's Cameo Queen	2863	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	W 23 d S
Granger's Granada	2864	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	R-OX 239 d S
Granger's Jim Dandy	2865	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	D-BV 23 d S
Granger's Lavender Belle	2866	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	O 23 d S

Granger's Monaco	2867	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	WB-E 23 d S
Granger's Pink Fashion	2868	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	M-P 239 d S
Granger's Pink Nimbus	2869	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	L-PW-E 239 d S
Granger's Red Flame	2870	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	R-O 239 d S
Granger's Red Gold	2871	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	R-O 279 d S
Granger's Red Knave	2872	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	R-O 239 d S
Granger's Regalaire	2873	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	D-BW-E 239 d S
Granger's Starburst	2874	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	D-PRC 35 sc S
Granger's Sylvan Blue	2875	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	M-B 23 df S
Granger's Wildfire	2876	7/31/76	Granger Gardens	R-OW-E 239 df S
Great Music	2823	4/22/76	House of Violets	PX 3 sc S

H

Heidi (See Ballet Heidi)				
Helene	2885	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	P-R 2 dc S
Helga (See Ballet Helga)				

I

Illumination	3031	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	L-PX 239 dc S
Inge (See Ballet Inge)				

J

Jack	2846	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	B-VW-E 2 s-d L
Jason	3004	9/20/76	Union County CH.	D-P 35 df S
Jennifer Paige (See Suzy's Jennifer Paige)				
Jerry B (See Suzy's Jerry B)				
Jim Dandy (See Granger's Jim Dandy)				
Joy Bells	2824	4/22/76	House of Violets	M-BRC 2 s-d S

K

Karia (See Ballet Karia)

L

Lady Jane	3067	11/26/76	F. V. Delly	O 23 d L
L'Amour	3032	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-P 29 d S
Lanigan's May Queen	2774	12/12/75	J. B. Kuhler	M-PXW-E 29 sfc S
Lavender Belle (See Granger's Lavender Belle)				
Lavender Cream (See Shirlee's Lavender Cream)				
Lavenesque	3033	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	OX 39 s-t-d S
Ledley Cox	3010	9/27/76	Mrs. J. G. Barnhill Jr.	VW-E 2 d L
Lisa (See Ballet Lisa)				
Little Beau (See Suzy's Little Beau)				
Little Boy Blue	3063	11/23/76	Mrs. J. S. Barnhill	M-B 2 s S-M
Little Jim	3005	9/20/76	Union County CH	M-P 29 d S-M
Little Red	3006	9/20/76	Union County CH	R 3 s M
Liza T	3062	11/18/76	Mrs. Goldie Kinne	W 239 s S
Lizzy Mae	3058	11/15/76	J. H. Smith	PX 27 d S
Lucilles Delight	3034	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	WP 368 d S

M

Maas' Variegated Gorgeous	3013	10/1/76	Hilton Dallia Farm	WR 27 d S
Magic Splendor	2886	8/23/76	L. Lyon	L-BW-E 23 s-dc S
Marge Winters	2817	4/9/76	Mrs. R. S. Riquelmy	VX 37 s S
Maria-Elaina	2816	4/9/76	Mrs. H. Keenahan	R-PXW-E 23 d S
Mark	3007	9/20/76	Union County CH	D-R 35 df S
Marta (See Ballet Marta)				
Mary Ann Pritchett	3064	11/23/76	Mrs. J. S. Barnhill	M-P 2 s-d L
Masterpiece (See Vern's Masterpiece)				
May Queen (See Lanigan's May Queen)				
Melva Nelson	2855	5/24/76	Edd Smith	OX 359 df S
Meta (See Ballet Meta)				
Mighty Mini	3023	11/3/76	Dorothy Adams	M-B 39 s-dc L
Millie Blair	3020	10/26/76	Granger G	L-BW-E 5 df S
Mint Floss (See Shomee Mint Floss)				

Miss Charm	3035	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	D-P 39 dc S
Monaco (See Granger's Monaco)				
Moonbeam (See Vern's Moonbeam)				
Mount Currie	2835	5/10/76	H. Gethen	OX 29 d S
Mount Garibaldi	2836	5/10/76	H. Gethen	O 35 df S
Mrs. Lucky (See Suzy's Mrs. Lucky)				
Mulberry Mist	2847	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	D-R-O 39 d L
Murphy	2833	4/26/76	V. M. Ozimek	WBC 37 d S
My Valentine	2825	4/22/76	House of Violets	P-R 3 d S

N

Nancy Kelly	2826	4/22/76	House of Violets	VW-E 25 s-d S
New Year's Day	3011	9/30/76	D. R. Maness	WL-P 39 s S-M

O

Olympic	2782	2/3/76	Mrs. E. Kramer	PWRC 3 dc L
Orchid Twin	2785	2/11/76	D. K. Feeter	L-VX 3 s L
Ouida Donald	2802	2/25/76	Mrs. C. J. Donald Jr.	PVC 239 sc S
Our Joyce	2779	2/2/76	Rienhardt's AV	BWC 3 d L

P

Painted Orchid	2848	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	OV 2 s-d L
Paper Lace	2827	4/22/76	House of Violets	P 2 d S
Party Pink (See Swanee Party Pink)				
Pinafore (See Tennessee Pinafore)				
Pink Fashion (See Granger's Pink Fashion)				
Pink-I-Think	2849	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	P 29 d L
Pink Lemonade	2879	8/17/76	Mr. Gene Thiel	PX 239 sf L
Pink Mink	2880	8/17/76	Mr. Gene Thiel	P 239 d L
Pink Mist (See Tennessee Pink Mist)				
Pink Nimbus (See Granger's Pink Nimbus)				
Pink Snow	2807	3/9/76	House of Violets	L-P 3 df S
Pink Star (See Tennessee Pink Star)				
Pink Surprise	2828	4/22/76	House of Violets	P 5 df S
Pink Waves	3036	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-P 29 dc S
Pizzazz	2881	8/17/76	Mr. Gene Thiel	L-PX 23 s S
Plum Crest	3037	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	R 29 d S
Pretty Pansy	2850	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	O-V 2 s-d L
Pretty Thing	2851	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	D-PX 23 d L
Pure Chloroform	2856	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	O 2 s&d S-M
Pure Glucose	2857	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	P 5 dc S
Pure Hexane	2858	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	P 2 s&s-d S-M
Pure Methanol	2859	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	P 29 s S-M
Pure Sucrose	2860	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	B 5 dc S
Pure Water	2861	5/29/76	Ronn Nadeau	WBC 2 s S
Purple Rythum	2783	2/3/76	Mrs. E. Kramer	VW-E 3 sf L

R

Radiant	3038	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	R 29 dc S
Red Flame (See Granger's Red Flame)				
Red Gold (See Granger's Red Gold)				
Red Knave (See Granger's Red Knave)				
Red Velvet (See Vern's Red Velvet)				
Regalaire (See Granger's Regalaire)				
Rodney	2829	4/22/76	House of Violets	D-B 2 d L
Rose Parade	3039	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-P 29 dc S
Rosy Plus	2852	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	PX 25 d L

S

Saint Marys	3012	9/30/76	Donald Maness	WO-E 57 dc S
Satin Sheen	2830	4/22/76	House of Violets	L-P 2 df S
Say Yes	2808	3/9/76	House of Violets	P 2 df S
Sea Breeze	3008	9/20/76	Union County CH	VWC or V 3 d L
Shirlee's Lavender Cream	2862	6/3/76	Mrs. D. E. Sands	L-OX 7 d S
Shomee Cherry Mint	3059	11/17/76	Tomara AV	D-PX 579 df S
Shomee Mint Floss	3060	11/17/76	Tomara AV	WP 579 df S
Shomee Thistledown	3061	11/17/76	Tomara AV	WO 2 dfc S

Snowball Special	2809	3/9/76	House of Violets	W 3 d S
Something Else	2810	3/9/76	House of Violets	P-RX 3 d S
Something New	3040	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	W 23 d S
Song Sung Blue	2811	3/9/76	House of Violets	M-B 3 d S
Southland Grape	2853	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	V 3 df L
Southland Rose	2854	5/17/76	Swifts' AV	D-P 3 d L
Spangles	3041	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	P 239 sc S
Sparkle Plenty	2786	2/12/76	Annalee Violetry	D-PR-E 358 dc L
Spry	3042	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	V-B 358 d S
Starburst (See Granger's Starburst)				
Summer Skies (See Vern's Summer Skies)				
Surprise	3043	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	BWC 28 dc S
Suzy's Beau Philip	2791	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	M-B 23 s&d S
Suzy's Bonnie May	2792	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	D-OX 2 sfc S
Suzy's Brett Steven	2793	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	L-O 3 d S
Suzy's Gertha	2794	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	M-B 2 s & d S-M
Suzy's Grace G	2795	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	WOC 2 s&dc S
Suzy's Jennifer Paige	2796	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	OX 3 d S
Suzy's Jerry B	2797	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	L-VX 3 s&s-dc S
Suzy's Little Beau	2798	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	L-BX 2 d S-M
Suzy's Mrs. Lucky	2799	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	L-OX 239 d S-M
Suzy's Ward B	2800	2/22/76	Mrs. H. S. Johnson	L-VX 27 s-d S
Swanee Flamingo	3065	11/26/76	Elmer Swanson	PX 39 s S
Swanee Party Pink	3066	11/26/76	Elmer Swanson	PG-E 2 df S
Sweet Honesty	2887	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	D-P 57 dc S
Sweet Surrender	2812	3/9/76	House of Violets	P 2 d S
Sylvan Blue (See Granger's Sylvan Blue)				

T

Tennessee Apple Blossom	3015	10/20/76	Mrs. T. C. Fritz	L-P 2 sc S
Tennessee Blue Moon	3016	10/20/76	Mrs. T. C. Fritz	D-B 2 sc S
Tennessee Pinafore	3017	10/20/76	Mrs. T. C. Fritz	WBCG-E 5 sf S
Tennessee Mist	3018	10/20/76	Mrs. T. C. Fritz	L-PX 2 sc L
Tennessee Pink Star	3019	10/20/76	Mrs. T. C. Fritz	D-P 2 sc S
Thistledown (See Shomee Thistledown)				
Thriller Diller	2813	3 9/76	House of Violets	RG-E 3 df S
Tina Lou	2780	2/2/76	Rienhardt's AV	D-R-OX 27 d L
Tiny Tot	2888	8/23/76	Lyndon Lyon	WP 2 dc M
Tony	2831	4/22/76	House of Violets	R 3 df S

U

Ulli (See Ballet Ulli)

V

Valarie Lynn	2818	4/17/76	S. L. Brown	L-PX 56 d S
Valentine	3044	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	R 239 dc S
Variegated Gorgeous (See Maas' Variegated Gorgeous)				
Velvet Queen	3045	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	D-B 239 d S
Velvet Ribbons	2788	2/17/76	Irene Fredette	PR-E 2 sc S
Vern's Blue Chips	2046	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	D-B 29 dc S
Vern's Blue Heaven	3047	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-B 29 dc S
Vern's Flash	3048	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	M-BW-E 289 dc S
Vern's French Lace	3049	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	BWC 239 d S
Vern's Masterpiece	3050	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	D-P 239 d S
Vern's Moonbeam	3051	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	L-P 239 s-dc S
Vern's Red Velvet	3052	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	D-R 29 d S
Vern's Summer Skies	3053	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	L-B 239 dc S
Vern's Telstar	3054	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	BWC 289 dc S
Vern's White Cheer	3055	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	W 39 d S
Vern's White Knight	3056	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	W 239 dc S
Vern's Zodie	3057	11/8/76	V. Lorenzen (Park N)	WRC 239 d M
Very Peachy	2814	3/9/76	House of Violets	L-PX 3 df S
Very Raspberry	2815	3/9/76	House of Violets	P-O3 d S

W

Ward B (See Suzy's Ward B)				
Westdale Sassy	2790	2/19/76	Irene Haseltine	OX 2 s S
White Cheer (See Vern's White Cheer)				
White Heritage	2777	1/5/76	Tinari	W or W&O 35 df S
White Knight (See Vern's White Knight)				
Wildfire (See Granger's Wildfire)				
Winter Grape	2789	2 17/76	Irene Fredette	OX 27 s & s-df S

Z

Zodie (See Vern's Zodie)

AFRICAN VIOLET (Saintpaulia) SPECIES

genus Saintpaulia H. Wendland in Gartenflora, xlii, 321, t. 1391 & Fig. 66

(1893)

S. brevopilosa	B. L. Burtt	1964	S. nitida	B. L. Burtt	1958
S. confusa	B. L. Burtt	1958	S. orbicularis	B. L. Burtt	1947
S. difficilis	B. L. Burtt	1958	S. orbicularis		
S. diplotricha	B. L. Burtt	1947	var. purpurea	B. L. Burtt	1964
S. goetzeana	Engler	1900	S. pendula	B. L. Burtt	1958
S. grandifolia	B. L. Burtt	1958	S. pendula		
S. grotei	Engler	1921	var. kizarae	B. L. Burtt	1964
S. inconspicua	B. L. Burtt	1958	S. pusilla	Engler	1900
S. intermedia	B. L. Burtt	1958	S. rupicola	B. L. Burtt	1964
S. ionantha	H. Wendland	1893	S. shumensis	B. L. Burtt	1955
S. magungensis	E. P. Roberts	1950	S. teitensis	B. L. Burtt	1958
S. magungensis			S. tongwensis	B. L. Burtt	1947
var. minima	B. L. Burtt	1964	S. velutina	B. L. Burtt	1958
S. magungensis					
var. occidentalis	B. L. Burtt				

Untreated Water Better For Plants

Fritz G. Lindley
16 Country Club Pk.
Covington, LA 70433

Just as your coffee tastes better made with natural spring water, so too, your violets will respond to water untreated by chemicals.

Several months ago, we moved from New Orleans where Mississippi River water is distributed after having gone through many chemical treatments to remove impurities and pollutants in general. Like everyone else, water from the tap was used for household consumption including African violets. We had fair success with our plants and at least comparable to those of friends and neighbors.

In Covington (40 miles north of New Orleans) we use artesian well water direct from several hundred feet down. The water is noticeably soft compared to New Orleans.

Within three months, the violets that were

looked upon as average bloomers suddenly came to life. New growth, brighter and healthier foliage appeared yet the plants are exposed to the same light conditions, same fertilizers, potting soils and on their FloraCart as before. The only change has been the source of water.

Conclusion: violets show their appreciation for chemical treatment free water by blooming up a storm. Moral: As you get bottled spring water for an improved cup of coffee, give spring water to violets for improved results.



DEADLINES are deadly! They must be observed if our Magazine is published on time. See page 3 under MAGAZINE for deadline dates.



African Violet Society of America, Inc.

31st Annual Convention

THEME: "THIRD TIME AROUND"

APRIL 25 – APRIL 30, 1977

THE CHASE-PARK HOTEL

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1977

7:30 pm to 9:00 pm Registration Chase Lounge
Mrs. Carl Meister, St. Louis, MO, Registration Chairman

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1977

8:00 am to 9:30 am Registration Chase Lounge

4:00 pm to 9:00 pm Registration Chase Lounge

9:15 am to 4:00 pm Tour - St. Louis City Lindell Blvd. entrance

8:00 pm to adjournment Board of Directors Meeting Stockholm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1977

7:30 am to 9:30 am Registration Chase Lounge

2:00 pm to 9:00 pm Registration Chase Lounge

7:45 am to 8:00 am Judging School Registration Lido

8:00 am to 12 Noon Judging School, Teacher, Mrs. W. M. Plaster, Shreveport, LA Lido

8:00 am to 12 Noon Entries accepted, Convention Workers Only Adjacent to Chase Club

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm Judging School Examination Coach

9:15 am to 4:00 pm Heritage Homes Tour Lindell Blvd. entrance

9:00 am to adjournment Board of Directors Meeting Stockholm

10:00 am to 10:00 pm Commercial Sales Room open Regency

2:00 pm to 9:00 pm Entries: Amateur and Commercial Adjacent to Chase Club

8:00 pm to 10:00 pm Social Hours: Lido
Metropolitan St. Louis African Violet Society, hosts
Slides, Atlanta Convention by Gus Becker, Beaumont, TX
at 8 pm/repeat 9 pm. Refreshments between.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1977

7:30 am to 9:15 am Teachers' Breakfast Workshop - Teachers Only Park
Mrs. James B. Carey, Shows & Judges Chairman, Knoxville, TN

8:00 am to 9:00 am	Workshop — “PLANTING TERRARIUMS”Coach Mrs. Monroe Achauer, Milwaukee, WI
8:00 am to 4:30 pm	RegistrationChase Lounge
8:00 am to 10:00 am	Entries accepted, Amateur and Commercial Adjacent to Chase
9:00 am to 5:00 pm	Commercial Sales Room OpenRegency
9:00 pm to midnight	Commercial Sales Room OpenRegency
9:15 am to 2:30 pm	Tour - Plaza Frontenac, Brunch and Shopping Lindell Blvd. entrance
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Workshop — “A WAY WITH CAMERAS”Coach Mrs. Marvin Garner, North Canton, OH, Moderator Frank Burton, Harvey Stone, Edgar Varick, participants
11:00 am to 12 Noon	Workshop — “DID YOU KNOW?”Coach Mrs. Henry P. Foote, Port Arthur, TX, Editor AV Magazine, Moderator; Mrs. L. F. Lidiak, Austin, TX, Boyce Edens Research Fund; Mrs. W. M. Plaster, Shreveport, LA, Booster Fund; Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, Austin, TX, Advertising Manager; Mrs. Richard A. Chase, Redwood City, CA, Awards
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Judges' and Clerks' InstructionCoach
2:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Judging Convention, Amateur and Commercial divisions Chase Club
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm	Get Acquainted Reception and Happy Hour Khorassan Room
6:30 pm to 9 00 pm	CONVENTION CONVENES — Dinner Meeting Khorassan Room Presiding: Mrs. Marvin Garner, North Canton, OH, AVSA 1st Vice President Invocation: Mrs. Ross V. Lahr, Littleton, CO Presentation of AVSA President: Mrs. E. A. Nelson, St. Louis, MO Official Welcome to St. Louis: Mrs. Robert T. Neal, President, Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc. Response: Mrs. E. A. Nelson, St. Louis, MO, AVSA President Introduction of Convention Chairmen: Mrs. Daniel Dohm, Jr., St. Louis, MO, Chairman; Mrs. Dana Gipson, St. Louis, MO, Vice Chairman “ALL LAMPS ARE GROW LAMPS”, Dr. Marc Cathey, Chief, Ornamentals Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture.
9:00 pm to midnight	CONVENTION SHOW OPEN, Amateur and Commercial Divisions Chase Club Registered Convention Members ONLY

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 1977

7:30 am to 9:15 am	Judges and Exhibitors Workshop & Continental Breakfast.Empire (ANY interested violet grower), Mrs. James B. Carey, Knoxville, TN, Shows and Judges Chair- man
8:00 am to 12 Noon	Commercial Members Workshop and BreakfastPark
8:00 am to 4:30 pm	RegistrationChase Lounge
9:00 am to 5:00 pm	Show Room Open - Public and Members (registered or not)Chase Club

9:30 pm to midnight	Show Room Open - Registered AVSA Members Only Chase Club
9:00 am to 5:00 pm	Commercial Sales Room Open Regency
9:00 pm to midnight	Commercial Sales Room Open Regency
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Workshop - "HYBRIDIZING" Coach Dr. Ronn Nadeau, Maryland Heights, MO
10:45 am to 12 Noon	Workshop - "ARRANGEMENTS" Stockholm Mrs. Edward Fisher, St. Louis, MO
12:30 pm to 3:00 pm	LUNCHEON MEETING Khorassan Room A Presiding: Mrs. W. J. Krogman, Brookfield, WI, 2nd Vice President Invocation: Lawrence Grissom, Beverton, OR "New Introductions" — Mrs. Duane Champion, Clay, NY "Awards for 1977" — Mrs. R. A. Chase, Redwood City, CA, Awards Chair- man
3:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Parliamentarian, Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson Chase Lounge Ft. Lauderdale, FL available for conference
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm	President's Reception and Happy Hour Khorassan Room C
6:00 pm to 6:30 pm	Reception Line Khorassan Room C
6:30 pm to 9:30 pm	BANQUET MEETING Khorassan Room C Presiding: Mrs. E. A. Nelson, AVSA President Invocation: Lloyd Lynn McArthur Introductions of Past President, Honorary Life Members, Life Members and past Bronze Medal Winners Roll Call of States: Piano accompaniment, Lloyd Francis, Chesterfield, MO "THE HAPPY GARDENER" Mrs. Clarissa Start Lippert, High Ridge, MO AVSA Awards - Mrs. R. A. Chase, Awards Chairman, Redwood City, CA Introduction of 1978 Convention Chairman: Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, Aus- tin, TX
9:30 pm to midnight	Show Open to Registered Convention Members only Chase Club
12 Midnight to 1:00 am	COMMITTEE AVAILABLE TO CHECK OUT ENTRIES Chase Club

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1977

8:00 am to 10:00 am	Committee available to check out entries Chase Club ALL STOREROOMS AND EXHIBIT ROOMS MUST BE CLEARED BY 12 NOON
9:00 am to 11:00 am	MORNING MEETING Empire Presiding: Harvey Stone, Marblehead, MA, 3rd Vice President Invocation: Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, Syracuse, NY Workshop — "SPECIES" - Dr. Scott Snyder, St. Louis, MO ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Empire Presiding: Mrs. E. A. Nelson, St. Louis, MO Election of Officers Installation of Officers: Mrs. James B. Carey, Knoxville, TN
11:00 am to adjournment	Board of Directors Meeting Stockholm

Meet Your AVSA Nominees



MRS. E. A. NELSON
... for president



MRS. M. E. GARNER
... for 1st vice pres.



MRS. W. J. KROGMAN
... for 2nd vice pres.



HARVEY L. STONE
... for 3rd vice pres.



MRS. "E" HANSEN
... for secretary



MISS FLORENCE GARRITY
... for treasurer



MISS SANDRA M. LEX
... for director

The following slate of officers for 1977-78 will be presented at the annual AVSA business meeting in St. Louis, MO, Saturday April 30 by Mrs. Wayne Schroeder, nominating committee chairman.

Mrs. Edward A. (Melva) Nelson, St. Louis, MO, for re-election as president. Under Mrs. Nelson's leadership AVSA has grown and prospered in 1976-77. Her knowledge and experience as an AVSA Life Member, lifetime judge, and judging school teacher has prepared her for her office.

For many years she has been active in local St. Louis African violet affairs including the St. Louis Judges' Council, past president and member of the advisory board of the Metropolitan St. Louis AVS and chairman of their ways and means committee. She is also an active member of a Federated Garden Club and a speaker on African violet growing.

Her previous AVSA activities include the office of vice president, secretary, and advertising manager of the African Violet Magazine.

Mrs. Marvin (Gene) Garner, North Canton, OH,



MRS. T. B. MCKNEELY
... for director



MRS. L. S. FLADT
... for director



MRS. LEON FIEDLER
... for director



MISS NELL-SUE TYSON
... for director

for re-election as first vice president. Mrs. Garner has been active in both AVSA and State AVS. She is past president of the AVS of Canton and Ohio State, past board member and officer of the Canton Garden Club. Her AVSA offices include vice president, director, past Booster Fund chairman, membership and promotion committee member, and Library chairman.

Gene also is an AVSA judge, Ohio State Judges' Council member, AVSA Life Member and participates in AGGS activities.

Mrs. Wm. J. (Adeline) Krogman, Brookfield, WI for re-election as second vice president. Adeline Krogman has served AVSA in many capacities including the offices of vice president, secretary, director, membership and promotion chairman and 1970 Milwaukee convention chairman.

She is a lifetime judge, judging school teacher and assistant to shows and judges chairman, Ruth Carey, registering judging schools. Adeline is an AVSA Commercial member.

In her home state of Wisconsin she is past president of the Wisconsin Council AVC, the organizer of many new societies, and also is a well known speaker for groups in neighboring states.

The Ruth Carey award for affiliate leadership was presented to Mrs. Krogman in 1971.

Harvey L. Stone of Marblehead, MA for re-election as third vice president. Using his ability as an amateur photographer, Harvey has been a well known member of the Library committee. He also has served as an AVSA director, and has been an active judge for 10 years.

Harvey served as secretary of the Bay State Judges' Council and is a member of the North Shore and Bay State AV Societies. He and his wife own and operate Harbor Town Flowers of Marblehead since his retirement as an Air Traffic Controller.

Mrs. Elisabeth H. ("E") Hansen, Jenkintown, PA, for election as secretary. The AVS of Philadelphia and the AVS of Lower Bucks County are the local clubs Mrs. Hansen has memberships in. She has served as recording secretary, 2nd vice president, show chairman and AVSA representative in these societies. She is an AVSA lifetime judge, Life Member and teacher.

She also has served as an AVSA director and on the following AVSA committees: membership and promotion, convention program, publications, standing rules, shows and judges, and yearbook judging coordinator.

"E" is also a member of the Liberty Bell Chapter of AGGS and is a senior judge of AGGS.

Miss Florence M. Garrity, Rosalindale, MA for re-election as treasurer. With a background as a foreign teller with the First National Bank of Boston, Florence has experience for her position as treasurer of AVSA. She also has served AVSA as a director, the 1975 Boston convention chairman and as a member of the membership and promotion committee.

Her local activities include being a director of the MA Horticultural Society and she has presented an AVSA exhibit in the society's spring shows since 1970.

She is an AVSA Life Member, founder and past president of Trimont AVS, a member of Nutmeg, Bay State, RI and NY societies and was the membership secretary of the Bay State society.

Miss Sandra M. Lex, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, for election as director. Sandra is presently serving as Co-Editor of the AVSC magazine *Chatter* and is on the board of AVSC. She is a member of Lakeshore AVS of Toronto and the Toronto AVS. On the American side she belongs to NY State AVS, and NY State Judges' Council.

At the present time she and her mother have a hobby-small business promoting African violets but she also breeds American Cocker Spaniel dogs and is a member of the Canadian Kennel Club.

Miss Lex is an AVSA judge and will become a teacher soon.

Mrs. Thomas B. (Myrtle) McKneely, McLean, VA for election as director. As a member of AVSA since 1951 Myrtle's interest in African violets is centered in showing. She has served on the shows and judges committee for 10 years and also on membership and promotion. She is an AVSA lifetime judge and teacher.

Mrs. McKneely assisted in organizing two African violet clubs in Virginia and was the organizer and first president of the Potomac Council of African Violet Judges.

Her interest also is in the Falls Church Garden Club which she served as vice president and is a member of the executive board.

Mrs. Lester S. (Julia) Fladt, Miami Springs, FL for election as director. Mrs. Fladt grows not only African violets but also has a collection of orchids and enjoys growing many varieties of gesneriads. A former resident of Ohio Julia belonged to the Ohio State AVS and since moving to Florida has become a member of the Dixie AVS and the South Florida AVS. She has been president, vice president, and treasurer of the South Florida club.

Her AVSA membership has given her the privilege of being a Life Member, lifetime judge, and



*DEW KISS (left) makes its
EASTER DEBUT*

*THREE MINIATURES JOIN
THE EASTER PARADE*

*Top: Midget Mischief grown by Mrs. J. Hayes.
Dancing Dandy grown by Lillian Crew
and bottom, Redderness grown by Mrs.
L. L. Presley.*



teacher. She has also served on the AVSA membership and promotion, publications, and awards committees.

Other activities include membership in the Southwest Garden Club, Tropical Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, and AGGS.

Mrs. Leon (Irene) Fiedler, Prescott, WI, for election as director. Living in Wisconsin but just next door to Minnesota gives Irene the advantage of being a member of clubs in both states. She is a member of the AVC of River Falls, WI, the AVS of Minnesota, and the Minuet Violet Club of St. Paul, MN. She has been president, vice president, show chairman, and director of the various clubs.

Her AVSA activities include being a judge and Life Member in addition to being co-show chair-

man of the Minneapolis convention.

Mrs. Fiedler has been growing African violets for 30 years and grows 1000 in all stages most of the time.

Miss Nell-Sue Tyson, Denver, CO, for election as director. Being an avid gardener Miss Tyson grows 400 African violets in her home. She is an AVSA judge and has judged at convention shows.

Her club affiliations include the Hi Country Judges Workshop, the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and the Hi Hopes Study Club. She has been vice president, historian, and ways and means chairman of the Hi Hopes Study Club.

Nell-Sue is a graduate of the University of Colorado and has been a teacher in Texas and Hawaii.

Highlights-St. Louis 1977 Convention

Ann Richardson
AVSA Convention Program Chairman

Time was when the convention really began on Thursday but now it starts on MONDAY when members of the Board of Directors arrive. Since the Board Meeting starts on TUESDAY evening they take advantage of the Tuesday tour on April 26, their only chance since they will be pretty busy later. This time it will be a St. Louis City tour.

A judging school on WEDNESDAY April 27, will be taught by Mrs. W. H. Plaster. Registration for the school starts at 7:45 a.m. so be sure to get to bed early so you can be bright-eyed the next day. For those who will not take the judging school there will be a wonderful all day "Heritage Homes" tour, which will show you some fully restored historic landmarks. Also on Wednesday at 8 p.m. there will be the usual Social Hours in the Lido room with Gus Becker's fine slides taken in Atlanta, with refreshments for all — a wonderful time to meet friends we have not seen for a long time.

THURSDAY, April 28, starts with the Teachers' workshop and continental breakfast at 8 a.m. Sorry! It is for TEACHERS ONLY!

Mrs. Monroe Achauer follows with a program on "Planting Terrariums." She is highly regarded in the Milwaukee area and will make you want to

put her ideas into effect as soon as you reach home.

For those who never seem to be happy with their photos and would like to learn more especially about photographing African violets, there will be a workshop moderated by Mrs. Marvin Garner, called "A Way With Cameras" at 9:30 a.m.

Also Thursday morning, too, if you want to learn more about how our Society works and meet some who make it work, come to the workshop at 11 a.m. moderated by our beloved Grace Foote, Editor of the *African Violet Magazine*, with such interesting people as Mrs. L. F. Lidiak, Boyce Edens Research Fund; Mrs. W. M. Plaster, Booster Fund; Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, Advertising Manager, etc. The Thursday tour will be for those who love to shop in a new area and then meet friends for lunch boasting of or showing off their new acquisitions. Judging of the show will be preceded by instruction for clerks and judges in the afternoon. At 5:30 p.m. the Get Acquainted Reception and Happy Hour starts and an hour later the CONVENTION CONVENES. Dr. H. Marc Cathey, Chief, Ornamentals Laboratory, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, will be our main speaker for the evening. He has been doing some new, interesting light research which you will want to hear about. Then,

come the big moment when the SHOW IS OPENED. Will we ever become blasé about anything as wonderful as our convention shows? It will include a very special exhibit on Species. St. Louis is blessed with experts on Species and they are preparing an especially fine exhibit for our enjoyment and education. St. Louis members will want to tell their friends to be sure to see the show, open to the public on Friday, April 29.

FRIDAY is the big day of the convention when something is happening every minute. First comes the workshop and breakfast for judges and exhibitors. Everyone is invited whether they are judges or not. Ruth Carey, Shows & Judges Chairman, will discuss the new rules and answer questions with the help of other competent judges. The commercial members will have their workshop about the same time. Theirs is for commercials only. Then comes a workshop by Dr. Ronn Nadeau on hybridizing. You have read some of his articles in the magazine and know how well he can explain things. You will not want to miss this one.

Also, those who love to make arrangements or would like to know how to improve their knowledge should come and hear Mrs. Edward Fisher who is especially gifted in making beautiful and interesting arrangements. Her workshop starts at 10:45 a.m.

At lunch we will again have a program that all look forward to. Be sure to have pencil and paper with you as you will want to jot down the names of all the new introductions, slides of which Mrs. Duane Champion will show you and tell you about. If you haven't renewed friendships on Thursday you will have another chance at the President's Reception and Happy Hour at 5:30 Friday evening. Do be sure to get in the reception line at six and meet our President and officers. After a delicious dinner many nice things will happen — awards will be presented; important people such as past presidents will be introduced; the Roll Call of States which we all love will be made; and a very nice person, Clarissa Start, well known to St. Louis readers through her weekly column "The Happy Gardener" will speak to us in a light-hearted manner. Another look at the show and then either to bed or unofficial meetings with friends to reminisce about other conventions.

You must not miss SATURDAY, April 30. The morning meeting will start at nine. First, Scott Snyder will conduct a meeting on Species. This will be the time when the questions that occurred to you while viewing the educational exhibit can be answered. Next will be the Annual Business Meeting and the installation of officers. All too

soon, the convention will be over and you will be sorry. Perhaps you too will say goodbye to valued friends and say, "See you next year in Austin, Texas."

St. Louis Has It - A to Z



Mrs. H. L. Holt
Publicity Chairman

Are you talking to your plants? Are they telling you they would like to "show off" at the St. Louis Convention April 28 - 30? Let's make this the biggest horticultural display ever and fill all the spaces in the design division. For those who have not attended a convention, it is a fun time, a time of learning, a time of comradery, also a time of work. Come see and meet some of the other people who make up the cogs and wheels of our great AVSA. We hope you are planning to be among them.

St. Louis has 10 major airlines, two national buslines, Amtrak and four Interstate Highways converging on the city making travel convenient and our city easily accessible.

Whatever you're looking for, whatever you like to do, ST. LOUIS HAS IT — FROM A TO Z, from the Arch to the Zoo, from African violets to Zealous violet people.

Do come. We're expecting YOU!

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

Howard Utz OF AUSTIN GROWS **"TEXAS STYLE"**

(Photo by Leary)



MONIQUE

CRESTLINE

(Photo by Leary)



House of Violets OF ARKANSAS GROWS **"SOUTHERN STYLE"**

(Photos by Grower)



SONG SUNG BLUE

FLOWER POWER



"All Lamps Are Grow Lamps"

Mrs. H. L. Holt
Publicity Chairman
'77 Convention

"All lamps are grow lamps." So says Dr. Henry M. Cathey, widely recognized scientist in the field of plant growth regulation research, who will present facts on this subject matter at the AVSA Convention at St. Louis, Mo., April 26-30. Dr. Cathey is chief of the Ornamentals Laboratory in the Agricultural Research Service's Plant Genetics and Germplasm Institute at the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland.

From research done at Beltsville on the interrelations of light, temperature and chemicals in the growth of plants, Dr. Cathey has developed guidelines that can be used by home gardeners as well as commercial growers.

Dr. Cathey is president of the American Horticultural Society. A prolific writer, he has produced 22 Home and Garden bulletins; serves as consultant, advisor to many horticultural organizations, environmental groups and garden writers. He is a frequent guest on NBC's TODAY show. Needless to say, Dr. Cathey has received many, many honors and awards.

LATE AWARDS

Two additional awards have been received by Celine Chase, awards chairman, for presentation at the St. Louis Convention.

Hybridizer Catherine Hawley is offering a \$10 cash award for the best plant of "Crimsunny", "Katy Did" or "Miss Buffy", three of her originalities.

Mrs. Warren Rosenbaum will give a \$5 cash award for the best white at the St. Louis convention/show.

Granger's Gardens will offer two additional awards at the St. Louis AVSA Convention for named varieties. These awards will be for 'Lavender Tempest' and 'Granger's Blue Bell'.

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NOTICE TO AWARD DONORS

Will donors who have offered a cash award for convention, please send check, payable to St. Louis Convention Account, to AVSA Awards Chairman, Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061 by April 1.

Gift awards may be shipped early to Awards Aide, Mrs. Knute B. Swennes, 18 Crabapple Court, St. Louis, MO 63132. If a gift award will be delivered in person at convention, please advise Mrs. Chase who will bring the award and when it will arrive.

CORRECTION

There was an error in the address for the Show Host and Hostess Chairman in the January magazine. If interested in volunteering to serve, send your name to Mrs. Lester Surwald, 7540 Bull Run Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123, no later than March 10, 1977.

CONVENTION DATES

1977 — St. Louis, MO. Chase Park Plaza Hotel, April 26-30.

1978 — Austin, TX. Driskill Hotel, April 11-15.

1979 — Denver, CO. Regency Hotel, June 6-10.

1980 — New Orleans, LA. The Braniff Place Hotel, 1500 Canal Street, April 15-19.

1981 — San Francisco, CA

W. D. STONE IS JUDGE

William D. Stone, 12068 E. Amherst Place, Denver, CO 80232 is a qualified AVSA judge. His name was omitted from the list of judges published in the African Violet Magazine. Mrs. Stone's name was listed. But both Mr. and Mrs. Stone are AVSA judges. Sorry, Bill!

CLUB GETS GOING!

The African Violet Correspondence Club is really on its way, members are exchanging ideas and making new friends, and are enjoying the newsletter, "African Violets Come Chatting."

According to Dorothy Harris, "it's such fun to talk violets with others. I'm sure I tried the patience of my friends in always talking about African violets, but now I can write to people who love them as much as I do and we never get tired of hearing about them."

Affiliate 'appenings

(ED. NOTE: When sending in reports of shows, please group the plants if one person wins with several. Please send in your writeups in following manner:)

THE OHIO STATE AVS' 21st annual show, "I Never Promised You a Rose Garden", with Mrs. Earl Neumann as show chairman and Mrs. Jack Westfall as convention chairman was held at the Kingwood Center. Show winners were as follows: Queen of the Show, 'Garnet Elf'; First AVS Collection, 'Garnet Elf', 'Cordelia', 'Miriam Steel', Best Ohio Collection, 'Wendy', Seedling, 'Star Power', Best single pink, 'Sister Ancilla', Best single blue, 'Star Power', 'Canton Star', Best Hawley Origination, 'Star Power', Best Granger Gardens Origination, 'Garnet Elf', Best Ohio Origination, 'Garnet Elf', Best D. Blue, 'Parma Zip', Martha Fensel; Sweepstakes (74) Best Double White, 'Regina', Best single red, 'Red Chief', Best single white, 'Starshine', Best double pink, 'Jolly Pink', Best Geneva edge, 'Top Job', Best Trailer, 'Trail along', Best miniature double, 'Little Rascal', Best semiminature double, 'Bloomburst', Best plant of 'Faith', Best coral, 'Coral Caper', Best seedling, 'Midget Orchid', Emily Savage; First runner-up to Sweepstakes (35), Second AVSA Collection 'Rodney', 'Delta Dawn', 'Song Sung Blue', Best double purple, 'Rodney', Best plant of 'Parma Zip', Best variegated plant (other than 'Tommie Lou'), 'The Parson's Gift', Best double two-tone, 'R. Barbara' and 'R. Karla', Best multi-color, 'R. Patricia', Rosemary Armstrong; Second runner-up to Sweepstakes (27), Best plant in unusual container, "Kitten in a Shell", Best single miniature, 'Midget Mischief', Best terrarium (over 12 inch), "A Garden Under Glass," Best of class double semiminature, 'Candy Trinket', Rebecca Swaney; Best ballet plant, 'Ballet Lisa', Best double pink, 'Ballet Lisa', Opal Stockum; Best pink Brocade, Best Episcia in Bloom, E. Pink Brocade', Bea Minister; Best plant shown by a novice, 'Little Mountain', Best double multi-color (Novice), 'Plum Pretty', Best double two tone (Novice), 'Gene Garner', Best variegated plant, 'Tommie Lou', Jackie Mercer; Best sport, 'Dancing Doll Sport', Evelyn Grinstead; Best double white, 'Miss Buffy', Best artistic planting, 'Garden of Eden', Best of class Scaly Rhizomatous Class, 'K. erinoides', Donna Maruschak; Best arrangement, "An Old Fashion Garden", Best miniature sinnigia, 'S. Tinkerbell', Best terrarium (12 inches or under), "A Garden Under Glass", Betty Rosaa; Novice Sweepstakes (8), Best of class of Novice miniatures and semiminatures, 'Sweet Pixie', 'Dancing Doll', Best trailer (Novice), 'Violet Trail', Kathy Smith; Best Tommie Lou foliage (Novice), Thelma Wilcox; Best of class (variegated) 'Tommie Lou', Mildred Lusk; Best Dish Garden, Fran Lane; Best plant of "Gene Garner", Donna Warren; Best episcia (not blooming), 'E. Checkerboard', Thelma Miller; Best Gesneriad, 'X Gloxinera', Mary Frederick; Best Commercial Display, Susan Feece; Best double red, 'Ballet Erica', Mary Pilck; Best Columnea, 'C. Earlybird', Miriam Tuchewicz; Best Yearbook, Columbus African Violet Society.

"Violets in Red, White and Blue" was the theme of the 16th annual show of the AVS OF THE EAST BAY, CA.

Awards were as follows: Best plant, advanced amateur, 'Christmas Holly', Dorothy Simpson; 2nd best, 'Jewel-tone', 3rd best, 'Silver Champion', sweepstakes with 22 blue ribbons; best variegated, 'Silver Champion', best single, 'Boyce Edens', Martha Gray; best plant, amateur Episcia, 'Pink Cascade', best artistic planting (show theme), best artistic planting, classes 31 - 34, Pearl Buenz; 2nd best plant, 'Lady Luck', 3rd best, 'Trail Along', Matthew Wright; best novice plant, 'Blue Dot', Opal Street; 2nd best, 'Violet Trail', Erika Macklin; 3rd best, 'Tommie Lou', Joan Gigliati; best miniature, 'Little White Cloud', Cecile Ambler; largest plant, 'R. Venus', best club project plant, 'Pink Swan', Ruth Stone; best arrangement, Marion Bruce; best unusual container, Gladys Perkins.

Theme of the annual judged show of the NUTMEG STATE AVS held in New Haven was "African Violet Bicentennial." Mrs. Julius Fargeot of Branford was show chairman. Awards were as follows: Tri-color Award for best in show, best miniature and AVSA 2nd best Collection Award, (purple rosette), 'Lavender Delight', 'Starshine', 'Pink Swan', Mrs. John Kosik of Stamford; 1st runner-up to best in show, Mrs. Edward Pryor of Hartford; 2nd runner-up, Mrs. Joseph Stramandole of Darien; sweepstakes (most blue ribbons) and AVSA first Collection Award (gold rosette), 'Tommie Lou', 'Nancy Reagan', 'Bronx Cheer', Mrs. Jessie Crisafulli of Belchertown, MA; sweepstakes runner-up and best artistic design, Edward Bradford of Woodhaven, NY; best arrangement, Christine Leppard of Westfield, NJ; Gesneriad special award, Mrs. Julius Fargeot; best gesneriad, George Holomakoff; educational table award, Mrs. Herbert Young of Trumbull. Many other special awards and blue ribbons were presented at the dinner at which Mrs. Ralph Caye of Windsor, state president, presided and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tinari of Huntingdon, PA, were the speakers.

At THE AFRICAN VIOLET COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S 22nd anniversary show, top award winners were: Best in Show, 'Mary D'; AVSA Collection Award, (gold rosette), 'Mary D', 'Mary C', and 'Becky'; AV Council of So. Calif. rosette for Best California Hybrid, 'Mighty Mini', hybridizer's rosette to Dorothy Parker Adams; AVSA silver bowl for sweepstakes, best miniature, 'Window Blue', best semiminature, 'Little Smokey Supreme', best in show (design), a terrarium, Pauline Bartholomew of Port Hueneme; AVSA Collection Award, (purple rosette), 'Chanticleer', 'Brigadoon', and 'Mary D', Pat Tusing of El Monte.

THEY ALL BELONG TO ME

By La Vine Nemanic

Oh, what a glorious sight to see . . . And know they all belong to me . . . With colors of pink, white, red and blue . . . A sight to make a heart beat fast . . . And how the blossoms last and last . . . A drink, some fertilizer, and much love . . . With rays of sun from up above . . . They stretch their leaves and show the blooms . . . They really brighten up all rooms . . . Ah! What delight they bring to me . . . To think a leaf can grow to be . . . A lovely sight for all to see . . . And know they all belong to me.

(Photo by Grower)



*A BEAUTY
HYBRIDIZED BY
LAWRENCE
F. WILSON*

See related story
on page 57

HENRIETTA WILSON

SOUTHLAND ROSE by Swifts' of Dallas

(Photo by Burton)



Violets' Extreme Desire To Live Impresses Grower

Lawrence F. Wilson
114 South Ninth Avenue
Bozeman, MT 59715

(See opposite page for new variety 'Henrietta Wilson')

After my surgery in 1971 and again in 1972, both times during which I had a very close brush with death, I found I could lose myself among my violets. The thing that attracted me was not the variety of plants and blossom colors, though they were beautiful. It was the extreme desire of this plant for life!

I found that if a leaf was broken off, it would heal. If I cut the very stalk of the plant itself, it would heal.

I found that if you put a freshly cut leaf into wet soil before it had time to heal, it would sometimes weaken with the same drawing sensation one feels on his hands when working with wet mud.

And then there is that miracle of life that remains in the leaf that was broken off. If it's placed in a glass of water or a dish of damp material or even placed, very shallowly in damp soil, it will root.

Now from this broken leaf comes a host of little plants. Just like their parent plant? Not always. Of course, we expect them to be the same to prove their correct inheritance, but once in a while, like the human family, here comes one that is not like the rest; it doesn't conform. The leaf is different, the leaf coloring is different, and, as it

develops, the plant is not the same. Then comes the bloom. Is it different? Well, not always, but many times it is and then comes the fun of seeing if it will reproduce itself by taking leaves and rooting them to produce another plant — and then again and again. It takes time but who is in a hurry when you are surrounded by these little characters of beauty?

Several years ago while growing plants from leaf cuttings, a plant developed that was not like anything from which I was taking leaves. These many years I have reproduced this plant by taking leaves from the original plant and its descendants and neither the color of the blossoms or the character of the plant has made any change.

Recently I registered the plant with the AVSA Registrar Adele Tretter, and named it 'Henrietta Wilson' in honor of my wife. My wife's favorite color is blue and 'Henrietta Wilson', is a sky blue with double blossoms that measure from 1¼ to 1½ inches. It is a prolific bloomer.

So losing myself among my violets during my convalescence both in 1971 and 1972 has paid rich dividends for me and has brought forth another beautiful violet for us to grow and admire.

Planting By The Moon

by EM. HUNT
4648 Fourth Ave.
Niagara Falls, Ont. L2F 4N7

MARCH -

Fruitful: 1,8,9,10,17,18,19,27,28,29
Semi Fruitful: 7,13,14,23,24
1st quarter Mar. 19th, 4th quarter Mar. 12th

APRIL -

Fruitful: 5,6,13,14,15,23,24,25
Semi Fruitful: 2,3,9,10,18,19,20,30
1st quarter Apr. 18th, 4th quarter Apr. 10th

MAY -

Fruitful: 2,3,11,12,20,21,22,29,30
Semi Fruitful: 1,7,8,15,16,17,28
1st quarter May 17th, 4th quarter May 9th

JUNE -

Fruitful: 7,8,17,18,26,27
Semi Fruitful: 3,4,12,13,25,30
1st quarter June 16th, 4th quarter June 8th



COMING EVENTS

(ED. NOTE — Deadlines for Coming Events and Affiliate 'Appenings must be observed if the magazine is to be published on time)

(Please send notices of "Coming Events" directly to the Editor; not to the Knoxville office. See Page 3 (Strictly Business—Your Business) for deadlines).

MARCH 11-12 New Orleans AVS to hold third annual spring show, "Violets In an Oriental Mood", at Lakeside Shopping Mall, Veterans Memorial Highway, Metairie, LA. Mar. 11, 1-9 p.m.; Mar. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mrs. Susan Burden, show chairman.

MARCH 12-13 Twilight AVS of Austin, TX to hold annual show/sale, "Violets and Shamrocks" at Austin Area Garden Center, Zilker Park, Austin, TX. Admission free. Mar. 12, 12 noon-5 p.m.; Mar. 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Pat Gorzycki, president; Mary Ann Nelson, show chairman.

MARCH 12-13 Atchafalaya AVS of Morgan City, LA., to hold judged show and plant sale, "Violets — A Paradise of Beauty" at Municipal Auditorium in Morgan City, Mar. 12, 2-5 p.m.; Mar. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. George Ramirez, show chairman. Admission free.

MARCH 12 - 13 — Air Capitol Society of African Violets of Wichita, KA to hold judged show/plant sale, "Violets You've Come A Long Way, 1890-1977", at Century II Convention Center downtown Wichita. Mar. 12, 12 noon-6 p.m.; Mar. 13, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sheryl Glenn, Show Chairman.

MARCH 17 - 18, AV Study Club of Atlanta and AVS of Cobb County to hold joint judged show, "Green Grow The Violets" at Rich's Auditorium, Plaza Floor, 45 Broad Street, Atlanta, GA. Public invited. Admission free. Mrs. Jerry L. Whitfield and Ralph R. Preston, show chairmen.

MARCH 18-19 Bergen County AVS to hold 20th annual show/plant sale at Old North Church, Washington and Madison Avenues, Dumont, NJ, in celebration of china anniversary, "Violets in a China Garden." Sue Humphreys, show chairman, Muriel Kaiser, co-chairman.

MARCH 19-20 Utica AVS to hold annual show, "Violet Fest", at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 1640 Genesee Street, Utica, NY. Public invited. Mar. 19, 2-9 p.m.; Mar. 20, 12 noon-5 p.m. Bea Blake, show chairman.

MARCH 25-26 First Arlington AVS' annual show, "Swinging Into Spring" in Amphitheater of the Forum 303 Shopping Center, Arlington, TX. Mar. 25, 3-9 p.m.; Mar. 26, show/plant sale, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Mrs. Bob Gilson, show chairman.

MARCH 25 - 26, Union County Chapter AVSA, to hold 24th annual judged show/plant sale, "Peter Pan, Tinkerbell and Violets", at American Legion Hall, 1003

North Avenue W, Westfield, NJ. Mar. 25, 6 - 10 pm; Mar. 26, 9 am - 4 pm Edward Maas, show chairman; Mrs. Janet Reimer, president.

MARCH 26 - 27, San Mateo AVS' 10th annual show, "Violets and Shamrocks", at Howard Johnson's, Bayshore and Whipple, Redwood City, CA. Frances Swope, show chairman. Mar. 26, 1 - 8 pm; Mar. 27, 10 am - 4:30 pm.

MARCH 26-27 Orange County AVS' first show/plant sale, "Violets in the Land of Oz" at Civic Center of Tustin, 300 Centennial Way, Tustin, CA. Mar. 26, 1-8 p.m.; Mar. 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Open to public. Introduction of Arthur Hill's new introduction, "First Show", and Southern California Council Show blue ribbon winners.

MARCH 27 Techland AVS of Franklin, LA to hold first show, "Make Techland Bloom With African Violets" at Franklin Recreation Center, Hospital Avenue. Public invited. Admission free. Educational exhibits, plants, leaves, soil for sale. Audrey Guillotte, club president.

APRIL 1-2 The 1st Nighters AVS of Dallas, TX to present annual show/sale, "Violets in Wonderland" at Town East Mall in Dallas. Bill Foster, show chairman. Admission free. Public invited. April 1, 1-9 p.m.; April 2, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

APRIL 1-2 AVS of Staten Island's 28th annual show, "TAVSSI Comes of Age", at Great Kills Moravian Church, 74 Hillside Ter., Great Kills, Staten Island, NY. Admission free. April 1, 3-10 p.m.; April 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. William Sorenson, show chairman; Mrs. Adolph Gundlach, co-chairman.

APRIL 1-3 Delaware AVS to hold 11th annual show/sale at Pomeroy's Community Room, Concord Mall, Wilmington, DE. Theme, "Heavenly Violets." Admission free. April 1, 3-9:30 p.m.; April 2, 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; April 3, 12 noon-4:30 p.m.

APRIL 2 Moby Dick AVC of New Bedford, MA to hold spring show at Dartmouth Mall, N. Dartmouth, MA, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. John Cook, chairman. A. H. Pinkham, president.

APRIL 2 Lincoln AVS to hold show/sale at Lincoln Gateway Auditorium, Lincoln, NE. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Open to public. Admission free.

APRIL 2 - 3 — Sparkling Waters AVS' annual judged spring show at American Legion Hall, Route 121 (Grassy Hill Road), Orange, CT, just south of Exit 56, Merritt Parkway. Theme, "Violets Swing Into Late Spring." April 2, 2-5 p.m.; April 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

APRIL 2 - 3 — First Austin AVS' annual spring judged show/sale at Zilker Park. Open to public. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free. Show chairman, D. J. Lidiak; president, Frances Young.

APRIL 2-3 Windsor AVS to stage judged show, "Violets at Eastertime", at Windsor Public Library, 323 Broad Street, Windsor, CT. Open to public. Admission free. Lyndon Lyon's plants on sale. April 2, 2-5 p.m.; April 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

APRIL 7 - 9, Columbus AVS' 28th annual show/plant-leaf sale, "Violets for All Seasons", at Union Company Downtown Store. Admission free. Plants and leaves sold during show. Show plants sold April 9, April 7, 10 am - 8:30 pm; April 8, 10 am - 5 pm; April 9, 10 am - 5 pm. Mrs. Lois Noble, show chairman; Mrs. Sharon Bruce, co-chairman.

APRIL 9 - 10, Ventura County AVS to hold annual show in McBride Building at Ventura County Fair Grounds. April 9, 1 - 6 pm; April 10, 10 am - 5 pm.

APRIL 14-17 AVS of Minnesota to hold 26th annual show at Har Mar Shopping Center, County Road B and North Smelling Ave., Roseville, MN. Mrs. Richard (Mary) Sandve, show chairman; Mrs. C. (Retha) Johnson, co-chairman; Mrs. Leon (Irene) Fiedler, president.

APRIL 15-16 First AVS of Wichita Falls, TX to hold show, "The History of African Violets" at University United Methodist Church, 3405 Taft Blvd. Wichita Falls, TX. April 13, 2:30-7 p.m.; April 16, show/sale, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. Harold Moffett, show chairman.

APRIL 15-16 First AVS of Denton, TX to hold show, "Violets Go to the Orient", at United Methodist Church. April 15, 1:30-7:30 p.m.; April 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. Shirley Jeffrey, show chairman; Mrs. Bruce Stoneburner, president.

APRIL 15 - 17, Illinois AVS, Inc., to hold 22nd annual convention/show, "Nostalgic Memories", at Stratford Motor Hotel in Alton, IL. Mrs. Lloyd Ballard, Rosewood AVS, state president; Mrs. Dennis Schmidt, show chairman.

APRIL 16 - 17, Thimble Islands AVS' 16th annual judged show at Willoughby Wallace Library, Stony Creek, CT. Take CT. Turnpike 95 to exit 56, turn south to Stony Creek. Admission free. Plants and leaves for sale. April 16, 2 - 5 pm; April 17, 10 am - 4:30 pm. Dennis Boyce, show chairman; Mary Phillips, president.

APRIL 16 - 17, Des Moines AV show to be held by Evening AVC at Iowa Commission for the Blind, 4th and Keosauqua, in Des Moines, IA. Theme, "Springtime and Violets."

APRIL 16 - 17, Long Island AVS' 23rd annual show, "Violets and the Arts", at Rockville Centre Recreation and Community Center, 111 Oceanside Road (north of Sunrise Hwy.), Rockville Centre, NY. Marilyn Hennecken, 91 Adams Street, Garden City, NY 11530, show chairman.

APRIL 16-17 AV Culture Club's spring show, "Rain-bow of Violets", at Department Clubhouse in Port Arthur, TX, with Julie Broussard as show chairman, Rosamond Bartlett, staging chairman, and Elva Ganson and Julie Broussard, schedule co-chairmen. April 16, 2-8 p.m.; April 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

APRIL 16-17 Border Cites AVC to present 24th annual judged show/sale, "Violet Splendor", at N. Dom Polski Hall, 5505 E. Buffalo at McNichols, Detroit, MI. Public invited. Pat Stamkoff, show chairman; Louisa Leslie, co-chairman. April 16, 2-8 p.m.; April 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

WHY NOT HAVE AN AVSA MEMBERSHIP TABLE IN YOUR SHOW?



APRIL 16-17 AVS of Lower Bucks County's third annual show, "SS. Saintpaulia", at YMCA Bldg., Levittown Parkway, Fairless Hills, PA. Admission free. April 16, 2-9 p.m.; April 17, 3-6 p.m. Mrs. Kay Lyons, chairman.

APRIL 16 - 17 - Naugatonic AVS' annual judged show, "Down Memory Lane With Violets", at Boothe Memorial Park, Stratford, CT. April 16, 2-5 p.m.; April 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. Ernest Gorgens, show chairman.

APRIL 17 - Green Thumb AVC of Fayetteville, AR to hold annual show, "Anytime Is Violet Time", at Root School. 12 noon-5 p.m. Mrs. B. E. Yandell, show chairman.

APRIL 22-23 Pomona AVS' show/sale, "The World of Violets", at Church of the Brethren, 2175 Bonita Ave., LaVerne, CA. April 22, 1-8 p.m.; April 23, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free. Mrs. Alex Mueller and Mrs. Owen Filler, information chairmen.

APRIL 22-23 Clifton AVS' ninth annual spring show, "Carnival of Violets," at St. John's EV. Lutheran Church, 810 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ. April 22, 2-9 p.m.; April 23, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. Beatrice Alstein, show director; Cathy Kulesa, assistant director.

APRIL 22 - 23, Evening Violeteers AVC to hold judged show/plant sale at Crossroads Shopping Mall, Hwy. 29/51. April 22, 4 - 9 pm; April 23, 9 am - 6 pm. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Crammer of Wausau, WI, show chairmen.

APRIL 23 - 24, Astro AV Club and Spring Branch AV Club of Houston and Montco AV Club of Conroe to present spring Houston-Conroe show/sale, "Texas Is - Natural Beauty", at Greenwood Forest Club, 12700 Champion Forest Drive, Houston, TX. Open to public. Admission free. April 23, 2 - 8 p.m.; April 24, 1 - 8 p.m. Julia M. Brittain, show chairman.

APRIL 23 - 24, Portland AVS to present annual show/plant sale, "Silver Celebration," at Woodman of the World Hall, 1847 S.E. Clinton Street, Portland, OR, in celebration of 25th anniversary. Public invited. Admission 50 cents. April 23, 3 - 9 pm; April 24, 12 noon - 6 pm.

APRIL 23 - 24, AVS of Greater New York to hold 21st annual show/plant sales, "Violets Across Our Land," at Queen's Botanical Gardens, 43-50 Main Street, Flushing, NY. Admission free. Free parking. Non-members permitted to show one violet. Mrs. Sophia Greives, chairman; Mrs. Rose Ghossn, co-chairman.

APRIL 30 - MAY 1, Seattle AVS' annual show, "Vio-

lets in an Oriental Garden", at Eames Theater, Pacific Science Center, Seattle, WA. April 30, 1 - 8 pm; May 1, 12 noon - 6 pm.

APRIL 30-MAY 1 North Shore AVS of Long Island, NY to hold 19th annual judged show/sale, "Merry May of Violets", at St. Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church, Pulaski Road and Shrine Place, Greenlawn, LI, NY. April 30, 2-8 p.m.; May 1, 1-7 p.m. Mrs. Alfred Tirmalis, president and show chairman.

APRIL 30-MAY 1 Silvermine AVS' 4th annual judged show/sale, "Violets Casino", at Cranbury Elementary School, Knowlton Lane, Norwalk, CT. April 30, 2-8 p.m.; May 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Public invited. Admission free.

MAY 5 - 6, The West End AVS' annual show/plant sale, "Green Grow the Violets", at the Christian Temple, Edmondson Avenue and Academy Road, Catonsville, Baltimore, MD. Proceeds from plant sale to go to Del Rey Cerebral Palsey Center of Catonsville.

MAY 5-7 AVS of Springfield, Delaware County, PA to hold annual show, "And the Violets Sing," in auditorium of Strawbridge & Clothiers, Springfield, PA. May 5, 3-9 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Public invited. Mrs. Carlos Rios, chairman; Dick Meyers, co-chairman.

MAY 5-7 Parmatown AVC's annual show, "Love Is," at Parmatown Shopping Center. Mary Pilck, show chairman; Roberta Klimo, co-chairman.

MAY 5-7 AVS of South Bay's annual show at Mayfield Mall, Mountain View, CA.

MAY 6 - Wausau AVC's African violet display/sale at Crossroads Shopping Mall, Hwys. 29 & 51 W. in Wausau, WI. 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

MAY 6 - 7 - Mid-South AVS of Memphis, TN to hold annual show/plant and supplies sale at Southland Mall, Hwy. 51 South. Theme, "Portrait of Violets." 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Public invited, admission free. Mrs. Cyndi Burlison, show chairman.

MAY 6 - 7 - Baltimore AVC's annual show "Nature's Wonderland", at Hutzler's Department Store, Towson, MD. Betty Leges, show chairman. May 6, 3-9 p.m.; May 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

MAY 7, Pioneer Valley AVS' judged show/plant sale, "Violets Over Pioneer Valley", Springdale Mall, Boston Rd., Rt. 20, Springfield, MA. Admission free. Public invited. 10 am - 9 pm.

MAY 21-22 AVS of San Francisco's annual May show/sale at Hall of Flowers, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

JUNE 11-12 Suburban AV Friends' 2nd judged show/plant sale at San Mateo Garden Center, Parkside Way and Alameda de las Fulgas, San Mateo, CA. Public invited. Judy Mitchell, show chairman.

In a secret ballot when voting for Best in Show, etc. it is a mistake to use an unusual colored pen or pencil. If the person to whom the plant belongs happens also to be a judge who is present, she or he will know how you voted.



IN NEW ORLEANS— 'Plain and Fancy' was named Queen of Show at the New Orleans AVS' annual show and was shown by Mrs. Frank Renaudin (upper photo). In the lower photo is shown Mrs. Marian Magee, sweepstakes winner, with one of her entries, 'The Parson's Daughter'.





Mrs. Talbot (Helen) Freie
Affiliate Chairman
 4854 N. Cedar Ave.
 El Monte, CA 91732



March once again and renewal dues deadline has been reached. I hope none of you are guilty of being late. Consult your Treasurer and make sure your dues have been sent in. If not make sure you take care of it now for very soon the clubs are terminated and I am sure no one wants this to happen to them.

I have many new affiliates listed today. Many of them are without complete information on their records. As soon as I receive this necessary information, your records will be completed. 'Til then, you are a club name with the name of the officer who sent in the application with the initial payment to the Knoxville office. This is not enough for affiliation.

At this writing (Dec. 1st, 1976) I have heard from three Early Birds who are requesting the AVSA Collection Awards for their Spring shows. This is great! Do hope every day brings more and more requests, because then there will be no worries that the rosettes will not arrive in time for show. When you fill in the Standard Show Award forms, please list the blue, red and white ribbons won in the Artistic Design section, also the number of entries, just the same as in the Horticulture Section. I know there is not much room, but, you can find a little space to list this. I cannot figure, if I do not have figures. Your scores cannot be checked without this information. Please all show people, do read Ruth Careys' handbook for all information on show procedure. You will find therein a mint of information! Everything you want to know. One thing I feel I must say at this time is that the blue, red and white ribbons you need for

your judged shows must be bought by you at your trophy house. I'm sorry but AVSA does not furnish them. You can send to the Knoxville office for entry cards if you do not choose to make your own.

When sending in your officer lists, please include the addresses and don't forget I need them in July. You all should know by then who your next President will be. Also when writing to me or when returning rosettes please, please do include the name of your club. Happy showing and may all of you win all the awards.

21 NEW AFFILIATES

This month we welcome into affiliation these 21 new societies:

Happy Hour Violet Club - Mrs. Lillian Braun-
 ing, 8401 Roosevelt Blvd., Philadelphia PA 19152

Sunshine Violet Club - Protestant Home for
 Aged, 700 Gilham St., Philadelphia, PA 19152

Fondy's Ever Blooming AVS - Bobbie Kole-
 house, 2408 Springdale Rd., No. 20, Waukesha, WI
 53186

Finger Lakes AVS - Marie Hannig, RFD 4 E.,
 Genesee Rd., Auburn, NY 13021

Primer Club de Violetas - Edith M. West, Via
 Latina 110 Fuentes del Valle, Garza Garcia Nuevo
 Leon, Mexico

The AVS of Hawaii - Mrs. Jo Middleburgh,
 2003 Kalia Rd. 11-F, Awikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii
 96815

Violets on The Bayou - Mrs. Anaise Le Blanc,
 Rt. 2, Box 101-A, Napoleonville, LA 70390

Town & Country VC - Mrs. A. L. Robinson, P.
 O. Box 308, Geismar, LA 70734

African Violet Lovers - Mrs. V. Richter, Rt. 2,
 Box 232-A, Kiel, WI 53402

Moonlight AVS - Mrs. Carol Rodgers, 128 N.
 Commerce, Burleson, TX 76028

Sweet Vi - O - Lets - Betty Smith, 9012 Dow-
 dell Rd., Tomball, TX 77375

Societe d'Horticulture at d'Ecologie Laval Sec-
 tion Violette Africaine - Robert Mayer, 6394
 Mignault St., Montreal, P.Q. Canada PIMIZ4

African Violet Society of the Philippines - Mrs.
 Alicia O. Javier, 81 Maginoo St., Quezon City,
 Philippines 3008

Riverside AVC - Katherine M. Katydky,
 Wewahatchka, FL 32465 (Rt. 1 Box 20)

Ruston AVS - Mrs. George A. Davidson, Rt 1
 Box 317, Ruston, LA 71270

Evening Violeteers AVC - 2708 Merrill Ave.,
 Wausau, WI 54401

Bright and Lively VC - Mrs. C. Goodwin, 1203
 Veronica, La Marque, TX 77568

Old Cutler AVC - Jeanne Hurlbut, 9482 Easter Rd., Miami, FL 33157

Friendship Gesneriad and AVS - John Ward, Rt 2, Box 168-8, Wylie, TX 75098

MCC AVS of Atlanta - Charles Karo, 800 N. Highland Ave., Atlanta, GA 30306

Houston Gesneriad Society - 12822 Huntington Venture, Houston, TX 77072

SWEEPSTAKES BOWLS

The silver sweepstakes bowl that were awarded this Fall are as follows:

Wisconsin Council of AVC - Mrs. Gilbert W. Arndt, 309 Huron St., Randolph, WI 53956

Bay State AVS show in Natick, MA - Mrs. Jessie Crisafulli, Amherst Rd., Belchertown, MA 01007

Nutmeg AVS show in New Haven, CT - Mrs. Jessie Crisafulli, Amherst Rd., Belchertown, MA 01007

AVS of Minnesota - Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Rt. 1, Prescott, MI 54021

Northern CA Council of AVS - Celine Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061

Southern CA Council of AVS - Mrs. Pauline Bartholomew, 172 W. Elfin Green, Port Hueneme, CA 93041

MORE BOWL WINNERS WILL BE LISTED NEXT TIME.

SEE YOU IN ST. LOUIS!

New Jersey Show Viewed by 30,000

"Excitement Is African Violets" was the theme of the 16th show staged by the New Jersey Council of African Violet Clubs. More than 30,000 persons viewed the two-day show of which Mrs. Christine D. Leppard, Council president, was show chairman. Winners and their awards were: Best in Show, 'Chinese Dawn', (a seedling), AVSA sweepstakes with 54 blue ribbons, horticulture division sweepstakes with 50 blue ribbons, best variegated foliage, 'Lilian Jarrett', Best Trailer, 'Pixie Blue,' Mrs. Leppard, Union County Chapter, AVSA; runner-up to best and best Maas origination, 'Jason,' Mrs. Pam Groff, Clifton AVS; second runner-up to best and second best Maas origination, 'Eileen', Mrs. Kazuko Lyons, Lower Bucks County AVS; AVSA Collection, (Gold Rosette) amateur, 'Becky', 'Flamingo,' 'Nancy Reagan,' New Jersey Council Collection Award, 'Jiffy,' 'Leila,' 'The King,' best gesneriad, Chrysanthemum Friedrich-

staliana, second best arrangement, "Up, Up, and Away," best artistic planting, "Pack Your Bags," best container garden, "New Jersey: The Garden State," design division sweepstakes with 8 blue ribbons, Edward Bradford, member at large. AVSA Collection Award, (Purple Rosette) amateur 'Green Ice,' 'Pink Blueberry,' 'Valerie,' best semiminiature, 'Little Jim,' runner-up to horticulture division sweepstakes with 46 blue ribbons, Norman Kehrl, Union County Chapter, AVSA; best Tinari origination, 'Purple Concord,' best Rhapsodie, 'R. Mars,' Mrs. Glenn B. Hudson, Union County. AVSA Collection, (Gold Rosette) commercial, 'Gail,' 'Maas' Gorgeous,' 'The Queen', Max W. Maas, Union County; best miniature, 'Hurrah,' Marj Kehrl, Union County; best single, 'Happy Days,' Lee de Risi, Bergen County AVS; best arrangement, "What Next?" Bill Lyons, Lower Bucks County; second best artistic planting, "Hub of the Mall", Raymond Dooley, member at large; best underwater arrangement, "Reflections," Tom Seiler, AVS of Philadelphia; best miniature arrangement, "A Little Bit of Fun," Magda Kummich, Bergen County; second best container garden, "New Jersey: The Garden State" Mrs. Charles Everitt, Trenton AVS; special awards, Clifton AVS, educational exhibit; AVS of Philadelphia, Court of Honor, and Lower Bucks County AVS staging. There were a total of 449 horticultural entries and 67 design entries. The show was organized and staged in less than three months time with full cooperation of the 10 affiliates and members at large of the New Jersey Council of African Violet Clubs.

DO YOU KNOW . . .

Where Mrs. Marjorie Dill, Route 1A, Gardiner, ME 04345 can obtain a plant or a leaf of 'Rosalie's Trailer?' The trailer was hybridized by Rosalie Gamlen.

SHOW ENTRY TAGS

Do you need entry tags for your African violet shows?

Then purchase them from The African Violet Society, Inc., P. O. Box 1329, Knoxville, Tenn., 37901.

The show entry tags are selling at \$2 per hundred — so send check to AVSA for the number you'll need, and you'll find yourself rid of a lot of bother and worry.

This is just another service being provided members by AVSA.

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND

Mrs. L. F. (D.J.) Kidiak
4503 Sinclair Avenue
Austin, TX 78756

"We so enjoy being a part of the wonderful world of violets." These words are an excerpt from the gracious letter accompanying a donation from the Lanierland AVS of Gainesville, GA.

"Being a part of the wonderful world of violets" in general and AVSA in particular means the giving of ourselves in some manner. A great number of speakers and judges forego fees so that the Boyce Edens Research Fund may benefit; affiliates and individuals alike memorialize friends or recognize special holidays and personal occasions. Each of these thoughtful gestures results in research funds which can be applied to projects designed to benefit the health and beauty of our lovely African violets.

Remember, however, it does not have to take a special occasion to precipitate involvement! Many affiliates make yearly donations. Not only is an affiliate gift to Boyce Edens a means of AVSA participation, but it serves as a "Project Supporting AVSA" (See p. 67, Sec. 7a, *AV Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors*) in the organization's yearbook when entered for national competition.

Contributions made from September 27 to November 26, 1976

Violet Harmony Club, Fort Worth, TX .. \$	10.00
First AVC of West Allis, WI	5.00
Lincoln (NE) AVS	25.00
Springfield (MO) AVS	5.00
Evening AVC of Des Moines, IA	9.00
AVS of Syracuse, NY	50.00
Northern California Council of AV Societies	25.00
Indian Capital AVS of Muskogee, OK ...	5.00
Pomona Valley (CA) AVS in memory of Marguerite Evans	5.00
Top Choice AVS, Shreveport, LA	20.00
Long Beach (CA) AVS in memory of Mrs. Georgeana F. Jackson	5.00
Central Connecticut Saintpaulia Club ...	10.00
Jean R. Natter in memory of Mrs. Frances Jackson	15.00
Sweet Water AVS, Hauppauge, NY	5.00
The Exhibitors Club (IL) in memory of Wayne W. Schroeder	10.00
Saintpaulia Society (MO)	10.00
AV Study Club of Birmingham, AL	5.00

Sunday AV Matinee, WI	10.00
Los Angeles (CA) AVS in memory of Mrs. Mary Harbert	5.00
New Orleans (LA) AVS in memory of Mr. Archie Fondham	5.00
Travelers Rest (SC) Garden Club in lieu of speaker's fee to Mrs. C. R. Logan ...	5.00
The AVC of Trenton, NJ in memory of Helene Condon	5.00
Metropolitan AVS of Peoria, IL	5.00
Crosstown AVC Madison, WI	15.00
Hi Hopes AVC St. Louis, MO	5.00
Old Dominion AVS of Northern VA	5.00
AVS of Canton, OH in memory of Mr. Albert Kehl	10.00
Sarasota County (FL) AVS in memory of Leroy McFarland	25.00
Santa Clara Valley (CA) AVC, annual Christmas donation	25.00
T.H.E. AVS of Birmingham, AL in memory of Mrs. Earl Ziegenhagen	5.00
First Austin (TX) AVS	5.00
First New Orleans (LA) AVS	5.00
Lloyd L. McArthur, Atlanta GA, donation of judging fee from Lanierland AVS show .	5.00
Lanierland AVS, Gainesville, GA, matching gift for Lloyd L. McArthur donation	5.00

AVSA BOOSTER FUND

Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71106

At this time, the beginning of our new year, the AVSA and the Booster Fund join in expressing to you our appreciation for your faithful generosity during the past year. We have accepted your gifts as a gesture of sincere loyalty and your desire for the growth and expansion of our great society. Our pulling together is helping us to grow rapidly and to become a very close knit family.

Please keep your contributions coming and let us make our organization grow even bigger and better. Come to the St. Louis convention in April — see you there!

Contributions from Oct. 1 to Dec. 1, 1976

Pied Piper Club of St. Louis, MO	\$ 5.00
Viking AVC of St. Louis, MO	5.00
Los Angeles AVS, Los Angeles, CA	10.00
Top Choice AVS, Shreveport, LA	20.00
Evening AVC of Des Moines, IA	9.00

Sweet Water AVS, Hauppauge, NY	5.00
AVS of San Francisco, CA	25.00
Desert AVS of Lancaster, GA, in memory of Mrs. June Hubbard	5.00
Saintpaulia Society of St. Louis, MO	10.00
Sunday African Violet Matinee of West Allis, WI	10.00
Rhode Island AVS, in memory of Mr. Phanual B. Gibbs	15.00
Mrs. W. F. Anderson, in lieu of speaker's fee from Saintpaulia Society of St. Louis, MO	10.00
Crosstown AVS, Madison, WI	10.00
Metropolitan AVS, Peoria, IL	5.00
Rhode Island AVS, Providence, RI	15.00



GETS HONOR—High honor was received by this unusual AVSA educational exhibit, designed and made by Lucile Wasson, when AVSA was invited to have the exhibit on display at the International Flower Show in Miami Beach, FL. The lower photo pictures the entire exhibit. Top photo shows the center portion of the exhibit, which was awarded a rosette.



TALLY TIME-1976

Mrs. John Chase (Mary) Reed
17124 NE 29th Place
Bellevue, WA 98008

Tally Time is a listing of the varieties receiving the greatest number of total awards at shows during 1976. The awards are for AVSA Collection Awards, Best of Show, Second Best of Show, Best Miniature and Best Semiminiature.

To assist in compiling further lists, please record the names of the varieties in your show which win the AVSA Collection Award, Best of Show, Second Best of Show, Best Miniature and Best Semiminiature and send to

No. Of Awards	Variety	Hybridizer	Reg. No.
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13	Garnet Elf (Granger)	2339
7	Pink Blueberry (Kartuz)	2608
7	The King (Maas)	2698
7	Tina (Maas)	2680
7	Tommie Lou (Oden)	1744
6	Becky (Maas)	2669
6	Mary D (Maas)	2675
5	Miriam Steel (Granger)	2276
4	Gala (Tonkadale)	2390
4	Lullaby (Granger)	1783
4	Starshine (Granger)	2349

SEMINIATURES

5	Bloomburst (Lyon)	
5	Sweet Pixie (Swift's)	2195
3	Blue Sprite (Lyon)	2725
3	Icicle Trinket (Champion)	2522

MINIATURES

4	Window Blue (Reed)	1710
2	Midget Midnight (Champion)	2281

HERE'S ADDRESS OF MRS. WASSON

Many Magazine readers have written asking me for the address of Lucile Wasson, who constructed the "Violet Hospital", which caused so much interest at the AVSA Atlanta Convention, and also created the educational exhibit, shown at the International Flower Show and was an attraction at the Atlanta Show.

Here's the address: Mrs. Lucile J. Wasson, 1101 Frankford Avenue, Panama City, FL 32401.

Question Box



By Anne Tinari, *Tinari Greenhouses*
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006

Q. Dear Anne: I have a very bad infestation of botrytis. Since this is my first year that I am growing African violets in my little greenhouse, can you tell me more about it and how to treat it or eradicate it?

A. Botrytis is a gray mold fungus which produces soft brown spots or blotches on stems or leaf. Many times it will attack a plant right at the soil line. The key to avoiding botrytis is good sanitation. Any dead or fallen blossoms or foliage should be kept off the benches and the walks in the greenhouse. Preventative methods of any type such as keeping tools clean, keeping the humidity adequate, but not excessive is of prime importance. Installing a humidistat controlling water vapor content of the air and circulation of the air can help greatly. Contact your local greenhouse supplier to find out what materials are available that can be used periodically in a greenhouse for this condition. Materials available vary from state to state.

Q. Dear Anne: I have read articles about grafting which involve cutting leaves from different African violet plants, tying them together and then planting the joined cut surfaces.

In each instance the author appears to believe young plants will eventually develop and will be hybrids with characteristics of the two parent plants.

I find this difficult to believe and think there is a misconception by the author. I fail to see where physical union of plant juices could result in an actual genetic cross as suggested. Besides a graft, as I understand it, is usually the addition of a bud or branch to a related but less delicate plant.

Significantly, perhaps, I have seen no follow-up discussion of the result of such an experiment which I suspect would produce only young of the two plants involved according to the articles I have read.

A. I have never quite gone along with the grafting theory, especially in the instances shown us, as only leaves and the petiole of the plant are involved which result in either similar or mutations of the cultivar cuttings used. I should welcome any information concerning well-known registered cul-

tivars or otherwise that have been a direct result of grafting.

Q. None of the variegated plants I purchased, which are always so attractive, remain that way after I repot them. What could be the cause of change to a plain green leaf?

A. An excess of nitrogen in the soil may prevent the variegated foliage from remaining as purchased, especially since you notice this after plants are repotted. I am sure you are aware they prefer great amounts of light and cool temperatures. There is also a variegated plant food (Peters 5-50-17) low in nitrogen that may be of great help to you.

Q. Last year I attended my first African violet show and was so impressed to see all the beautiful prize-winning plants. I asked several people how long it took them to grow these plants 18 inches and over. Best information I could gather was they are about a year old. But growing a few plants from leaf cuttings I'm sure this would be utterly impossible. Could they have meant they were grooming the plant for a year and what is the average lifetime of a violet plant? After a plant reaches show-stage can it be expected to continue to grow and bloom, or is its life ended?

A. I'm sure what was meant was that grooming had started a year ahead. Grooming a show plant should start when it is approximately a year old or when the leaf pattern is established and possibly the first bloom is open, as I find it very wise to make positive it is representative of the true color. Also that it is a vigorous growing young plant that can take the grooming and growing necessary to turn it into a show plant by the time it is approximately 2 to 2½ years. If proper care has been given it can be in good condition for a show plant. Many, of course, are older but I have referred to the minimum time.

The average life of a plant can vary. I recently saw a plant over 25 years old still in excellent shape and in bloom. The owner was a well-experienced home grower that cares for her plants in a very devoted manner. They mean so much to her. Generally speaking, I prefer young plants where

vigor and profusion of bloom are tops and prefer to replenish stock often rather than hang on to older plants where disease and problems are more prevalent.

If after a plant is shown and the grower knows how to care for it by spraying it carefully with an insecticide, removing any lower leaves, disbudding it and even repotting if necessary, it can come back and be as beautiful as ever and even be shown again.

Q. As readers we are warned constantly to "Keep suckers off plants—but be sure they are suckers." How can I be sure? Are they the tiny leaves low on the plant underneath the larger ones?

A. The best definition of a sucker is the one found in the Judges Handbook as follows: "Suckers are tiny leaves that form near the base of a plant or in the axils where the petioles or leaf stem join the main stem of the plant. Some bud stems form with small leaves but by the time four leaves show without evidence of a bud it is a sucker."

They can be removed easily with a sharp tool or even the fingernail when they are small before they grow large and make it a multiple crown where plant pattern is disrupted.

Q. Dear Anne: Is it possible for a violet to convert to a different variety? Or does the type of light received make a difference in the color of blooms? I am completely mystified about this and would appreciate any information.

A. Yes, it is very possible for a plant to be recessive enough to look entirely different.

Light and environment also play a decisive part. I have seen plants, grown in different areas of the greenhouse where light intensity varies greatly, change in flower color. Also plants grown in a cooler temperature seem to have intense blossom colors and it is common knowledge that variegated cultivars thrive best in less light, but cooler temperatures.

Q. I have very poor environment in my apartment to grow violets. They get less than 20 minutes of sunlight per day and poor ventilation and I have no control over room temperature. My latest problem is new growth from repotted plants with about 1/3 the size of normal leaves. They are not baby leaves, but what keeps them so small? Even my standard size plants are smaller than newly acquired miniatures. I see no disease of any kind, but what could be wrong?

A. I am surprised your plants grow and survive at all. Twenty minutes of sunlight is hardly sufficient even for green plants.

The only way you will be able to grow and flower your African violet plants is to acquire more light. I would recommend fluorescent light. Even a small unit would help. However, when investing in lights the 20 watt fluorescent tubes and over are the best. Then give plants at least 12 to 14 hours per day of light and you will certainly notice the difference. Also placing plants on pebble-filled trays with lights overhead will help to improve a more buoyant atmosphere for better plant growth.

Q. Having moved to a new location where well water is used, I find the well water is very hard with a high mineral and iron content. Thus I had a water softener installed and also a special tap to the well for my plants. But now I am afraid to use it for fear the mineral and iron content will build up in the soil. I am afraid to use rain water for fear of having fungus and pests from having water standing.

A. Your well water should have no adverse effect on your plants and would be my choice of other means you mention.

We have been using well water high in iron and mineral content for more than 25 years in our greenhouses where millions of plants have grown and flowered with no ill effects.

Do not use water from a softener, as the salinity will destroy your tender plants.

Q. Dear Anne: I have several of the popular Ripe-N-Grow Sunlite units and am anxious to know how costly they are to operate?

A. The manufacturers' literature on this unit states the following: Depending on your cost of power the daily cost of operating this unit will be in the vicinity of 1½¢ per day.

The special Gro-lux wide spectrum tube in this unit has a rated life of 7500 hours.

Q. Please let me know if gas heat will hurt my violets. The furnace is in the basement with my violets. Also what kind of an insecticide is safe to use in the basement since we have duct heat with vents open that travel to all parts of the house?

A. Gas heat should not harm violets as long as there is not gas escaping. It is as good as any other type fuel.

As to insecticides there are very few one can use that do not have a very offensive odor that will travel. Possibly Kelthane would be the least potent. We use gases here that cannot be used in the home.

Q. My husband and I were away for two days and when we came home we discovered that our main furnace had quit working, and my African

violets were severely damaged because of the freezing temperatures. The leaves in the centers of each plant were the only parts that weren't frozen. Is there anything I can do to speed their recovery and help them get over the terrible shock?

A. Regarding your unhappy problem of plant damage due to cold temperature there is not much that can be done except to persist in caring for them as best possible. Remove any leaves that are mush or lifeless. If your center crowns look green and healthy they will no doubt recover, but it may be a long time before they will become a symmetrical, prosperous looking plant. Do not remove any to large pots and place plants fairly close together to retain a healthy growing atmosphere. Plant food given every time you water at a reduced strength of 1/4 tsp. to 1 gallon of water and giving them 12 to 14 hours of light per day, 8 hours of darkness, should bring them back to normal growth though it may take much time.

Q. I want to use super phosphate in my soil mixture, but cannot find information on quantity to use. Can you help me?

A. A common recommendation for this is to use a 4" pot full of super phosphate to each 1½ bushels of soil.

Q. Dear Anne: In trying to bring pleasure to the residents of a local nursing home, I run into a lot of problems as the enthusiasm is high, but results are very discouraging. Because very large windows get very cold at night many plants must be placed on the floor. The heat is not really adequate to maintain these plants in a good growing condition. These are only a few of the problems. Last year one plant survived to enter a local show with the constant threat of being stolen for its attractiveness. Naturally the residents depend on the attendants to help them with their plants and I can only get there once a week, but it's not enough to water, turn and groom plants. I love your column, do you have any ideas?

A. Your problem is a difficult one. My suggestion would be to try to obtain an area where artificial light could be used. Any dark corner that may be accessible where you could hang a few 40-watt fixtures would certainly give a great boost to plant growing and flowering for anyone that must reside in a nursing home. The benefit derived would be exhilarating. When conditions exist as mentioned the only choice is artificial light that remains on 12 to 14 hours per day and 8 hours of darkness.

Sometimes the local clubs take on such projects or community-minded people when they know of the existing need.

Q. Why do my plants grow such long petioles?

A. This is characteristic of some types. However, long petioles often indicate a definite lack of sufficient light. When light is dim and weak the food produced is not sufficient to produce plant cells of normal strength. Water pressure within the plant can stretch the cell walls and the end result is large soft leaves with long petioles. Increasing the light will give you shorter petioles and healthier leaves.

TIPS:

TIP No. 1 . . . I have found leaf propagating of African violets really quick and exciting by using the following method under my lights.

A clear plastic box that fits my tray perfectly which is 16" by 14" and seven inches high. First, I sprinkle the bottom with horticultural charcoal, just a skim, then place two inches of milled sphagnum moss on this, cut my leaves to about 1½ to 2" petioles then insert them in the moss. Place the cover on the box and set it about 4" from my light. It never needs watering. If steam forms on the cover I simply remove it, wipe dry and replace it. Many of my leaves root within two weeks.

TIP No. 2 . . . I grow my plants in clay pots. Rather than wonder if they are clean and safe, I scrub them clean and boil them for a few minutes in a solution of 1/2 oz. vinegar to 1 gallon of water. Then I use good organic soil that has been pasteurized so I know my violets are off to a good start for good growth and flowering.

TIP No. 3 . . . After a very severe case of thrip, I took your suggestion to read and follow directions in AVSA Magazine, Vol. 24, No. 4, page 59 an article with illustrations by Neva Anderson. I was able to resolve my problem with excellent results. As per directions, I used 1/2 tsp. Cygon 2E to 1 gallon of water and sprayed seven days apart for three applications, using it in a mist sprayer and as a drench.



JUDGES CHAIRMEN

A list of qualified American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society judges living in adjacent areas of an AVSA Affiliate show may be obtained by writing, Frances N. Batcheller, Box 331, Durham, New Hampshire 03824.

Copies of the Flower Show Manual for Judges and Exhibitors prepared by Frances Batcheller and Estelle Crane may be obtained for \$2.50 from the same address.



A Foote on the Violet Path

By Grace Foote

Now what do you know? After I said Atlanta was 2nd largest convention AVSA has held comes word from Madeline Gonzales of San Jose, CA. She wrote: "California's San Francisco convention in 1962 had 836 registrations. Shame on you!" So you see I'm going to have to get a statistician to keep records for me. Now what will our official count be in St. Louis? Sue Dohm, St. Louis convention chairman, and the rest of those St. Louis people contend "we're going to have the best one yet!" Will I be seeing you there? . . . Have you tried any of the fluorescent lamps, called Tru-Bloom, which have been introduced by Verilux, Inc? It's reputed to be a revolutionary lamp in that it promotes healthy growth rather than fast growth, and provides an even distribution of the color spectrums so that plants receive enough red light to promote growth and flowering, and enough blue light for slower, long-lasting growth. And, too, every lamp is guaranteed to lose not more than one per cent of its color rendition ability for the life of the lamp. Some lamps have been used for periods as long as five years . . . Caroline Hammers, 4194 S. Delaware, Englewood, CO 80110 wants to trade violets with other growers — she started her collection from leaves and now has so many violets she'd like to start trading . . . Malcolm Macmillan, Gilnockie, Park Road, Dumfries, Scotland, DG2 7PW, writes: "I simply want to say how much pleasure I derive from being an AVSA member. The magazine with its extremely helpful articles and exquisite illustrations is an absolute inspiration, and through its advertisements I have managed to obtain some of the more recently developed violets all of which are simply unobtainable here. African violets are not produced here commercially so I am all the more grateful for the plants and leaves provided for me by one of your advertisers, especially, who goes to all the bother to send them. AVSA is doing a wonderful thing in bringing together people who share a common interest. One day, maybe, I may be able to make the long journey to one of your conventions. In the meantime, let me just thank you for all the pleasure you have brought me." . . . Ruby Eichelberger still wondering how she could have been a member of Dixie AVS 24 years when Dixie AVS is only 20 years old? The "Ruth Carey Citation" she received commended her on 24-year service but, as she says, she'll still settle for 20 . . . Chris Leppard mighty proud of the fall show staged by the New Jersey Council of African Violet Clubs even

though they only had 90 days to put together an event that had died five years previously — but as state president she felt the state organization had to get active immediately and the show turned out most successfully. Now they're looking forward to next fall . . . Mrs. H. Steven (Suzy) Johnson of Orlando, FL being honored with an Award of Service by the Orlando Garden Club for the many programs she's given throughout the area to clubs and on TV and radio on growing violets. Her proudest accomplishment, however, was "after three and one-half years, taking five flower show schools, plus the reading exam and passing, she is now an Accredited Flower Show Judge of the National Council" . . . Dora Lee Odom Dorsey of Tampa, FL a member of both the Tampa AVS and Begonia societies suggesting you contact Lydia Austin, librarian, American Begonia Society, 15329 Eastwood Ave., Lawndale, CA 90260, if you're interested in obtaining publicity for your group. Ms. Dorsey says to ask for Chuck Anderson's publicity guide, "Getting It in the Paper," There might be a charge. We don't know . . . We're glad to see more men taking an interest in African violets. A young man working on his doctorate appealing to me for help, said the all-women AVS in his hometown wouldn't let him join because he was a man. Another young man learned I was the magazine editor and called me, asking for help in joining a local club. Said he had quite a few plants but wanted to join a club and learn more. So I obliged him by furnishing him with some names. Hope they're both happy club members by now . . . Mrs. Warren B. Partain, a transplanted Texan from Wichita Falls, moving to Haines City, FL about a year ago and the first thing she did was to look up the name of the Haines City AVS president in the Affiliates listed in the November Magazine and now she's an active member with some 250 violets. Her husband, who loves violets as much as she does, looked around their two-bedroom double-wide mobile home one day and recommended "either start a birth control system on your violets or else we'll have to build a greenhouse." . . . Just had a note from Susan Baumgardner, 901 Radnor Dr., Maryville, TN 37801 wondering if any African violet growers would help her find 'Pink Beauty' or 'White Lady'. She's interested in the older varieties she remembers from her childhood — like the plain singles and doubles of the '50's. . . . Y'know someone is always casting aspersions on older violet growers by calling them "little old women in

tennis shoes." They just don't know AVSAers, do they? In fact, I really don't know what age group they include in these "little old women" - - - but I'll venture to say they don't know our well-groomed "grandmothers" and "great grandmothers" in AVSA. Take for instance our attractive AVSA President, Melva Nelson, who recently became the great grandmother of a beautiful golden-haired blue-eyed great grandson! "Golly--great grandma!" she exclaimed, "I'd better stop this gallivanting around and take to my rocking chair!" There's also Adele Tretter, our charming AVSA registrar, who is also a great-grandma now! And then there's pretty Gene Garner, AVSA first vice president, who says "You should see my beautiful new TWIN grandsons - I am one happy GRANDMOTHER! My first!" So, you see, being an AVSA grandmother or even a great grandmother, doesn't put you in the class of "little old women in tennis shoes".

IN MEMORIAM

Percy Crane

The AVSA Board of Directors and AVSA members throughout the nation were grieved to learn of the death of Percy F. Crane of Sharon, MA. Percy died at a hospital on Jan. 10 and funeral services were held in Walpole on Jan. 13. He was an AVSA Life Member.

Percy was the husband of Estelle Crane, who for many years was AVSA treasurer. He accompanied her to all the AVSA conventions and because of his wit and amiability was always a welcome addition to that group of "hotel lobby husbands", who banded together while their wives attended Board meetings. Some of this group had formed a small "club" with Percy serving as "president."

The heartfelt sympathy of many, many AVSA friends is extended to Estelle in her time of loss and bereavement.

Cora Plymale

Members of the Richmond, Virginia branch of the AVSA are saddened at the passing of Cora Plymale, who served as our President from 1969-71. She's fondly remembered for her devotion, the generous contribution of her time and many talents.

Carl Manship

Carl Louis Manship of Roanoke, AL died after being stricken with a pulmonary embolus. Mr.

Manship was the husband of Clarice Manship, who won the bonnet contest at the AVSA Convention in Atlanta, GA, last year. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Manship.

Millie Blair

A vivacious and enthusiastic AVSA member has left our group and her passing is mourned by many African violet growers. She was Millie Blair, of Vallejo, CA., a member of the AVSA Board of Directors, who died Dec. 7, 1976. She had been ill several months but her death is a great loss to her many friends, not only in California but throughout the nation. Many AVSA members feel a deep personal loss since she was such a true friend. Our deep sympathy to Millie's family.

Cathy Granbacka

Cathy Granbacka, mother of Elaine Taber, president of the Tampa, FL, AVSA, died Nov. 6, 1976 after a brief illness. Mrs. Granbacka was a native of Hungary and a former resident of New York State. She will be greatly missed by her many friends and the Society. She was always a gracious hostess and willing worker in her community and the Tampa Society. Our sympathy goes out to Elaine and the family.

VITAMINS FOR VIOLETS

Mary M. Mahen

326 Big Bend

Valley Park, MO 63088

Have you ever received a leaf that was wilted and did not root? A soaking in Vitamin B¹ (Thiamine) will usually revive a badly wilted leaf.

Get a bottle of Vitamin B¹ tablets from the drug store and dissolve two tablets in one gallon of warm water. After the tablets are dissolved let it settle so that the residue goes to the bottom. The solution is now ready to use.

Lay the leaf in a small shallow dish and pour the Vitamin B¹ solution over it. Let it soak until the leaf perks up. This may take a day or more. When the leaf is firm, remove it and pat dry. It is now ready to root by your own favorite method.

This solution is also good to water the leaves with when they are put down for rooting. It stimulates root formation. This is also good for rooting other flowers from cuttings and leaves.

Give your flowers vitamins and watch them glow with health.

A Visit To Holtkamp's

By Betty Salzer

High above shapely green foliage, a large deep pink ruffled star shone. The excitement was catching as we admired this beautiful Saintpaulia which was just beginning to flower.

"It's the prototype, the first flower," said Hermann Holtkamp Jr. who was showing us the new Rhapsodie seedlings in one of the three large glasshouses which are used for the hybridizing and growing of seedlings.

Other new seedlings, with star or violet shaped blossoms, many with ruffled edges, displayed dark velvety blue, very bright red, purple, pink, two toned and white flowers.

"Two hundred thousand new seedlings are grown every year," said Mr. Holtkamp. Only between five and 10 of these would be selected and ever reach the market.

I learned that new and better varieties were gradually replacing older popular ones. 'Elfride', had until quite recently been the number one best seller, but it was now down to number 26. Very dark blue is still the most popular color. They grow 70% blue, 20% pink and 10% other colors.

Seeds are planted in styrene trays on a finely pulverized and sterilized mix, mainly peat moss, perlite, and dolomite lime to bring the pH to 6.5. The trays are placed in a glassed in compartment, which has controlled heat and humidity. Fluorescent lights, 40 cm. (nearly 16") above the bench, are warm white only, without shades, but frosted on the top so the light goes down. They are used in all the glasshouses in conjunction with natural light.

"Lights are very good for growing seedlings and propagating," said Hermann Holtkamp Sr. who had joined us in the hybridizing house. "Lights also draw the flowers."

Right away, one could feel the affection the elder Holtkamp has for his Saintpaulias. Such a charming and kindly man. It was he who hybridized and produced the beautiful Rhapsodies which are grown under license in America.

Recently, Mr. Schultz in Sydney, Australia has been authorized to grow them.

Mr. Holtkamp Sr. still has much to do with the hybridizing, although the business is gradually being taken over by his eldest son Reinhold, who has always worked with his father.

Later with Reinhold we visited the glasshouses, 12 kilometers away, where Rhapsodies are propagated and grown commercially.

In one section, small plants were being brought into flower in small clay pots approximately 3½" size. Mr. Holtkamp lifted a beautiful 'Elfride' from the pot, revealing its healthy white roots. As he talked, he groomed plants within his reach, showing the feeling for violets so many of us share.

The glasshouse was light and airy, oil-heated to a pleasant 20°C with humidity between 60 and 80 per cent, perfect for Saintpaulias. On most of the long benches, large polystyrene trays, for warmth, held rows of leaf cuttings and plantlets, growing vigorously in the winter light, supplemented with fluorescent tubes. The length of time the lights are on every day depends on the time of year. Houses must be shaded from too much direct sun in summer.

"In their natural state, they grow in filtered bright light," Mr. Holtkamp explained. "Mature plants grow very well all year round in natural light, but plantlets and leaf cuttings need extra."

We walked to the central building where the production is carried on, and here it was "Rhapsodies on the Assembly Line". It was a joy to see such cleanliness and efficiency.

The potting soil is mixed in a large drum and consists of peat moss, perlite, and dolomite lime to bring the pH to 6.5. A special mixture of organic fertilizer called HUZ is added. It is dampened and kept for about three weeks before it is used.

Polystyrene trays, approximately 20" square are filled with the potting mix automatically by machine. The soil is flattened down on top, and 100 holes, evenly spaced, are stamped into it. The trays are carried on a moving belt which passes beside 12 girls sitting at small potting tables. One hundred plantlets, graded to similar size and the same variety, are quickly planted into each tray which is replaced on the belt. From here they go into one of the glasshouses where they grow for two or three months. Most of Holtkamp's business consists of selling these well grown trays of plantlets to other commercial growers who will bring them into flower for the market.

Reinhold Holtkamp told us about his father.

"When he wanted to marry my mother, my grandfather told him he better go and learn something useful, so he went to Horticultural College," said Mr. Holtkamp. "Up until then he had been a salesman for imported products such as tea and coffee."

"In 1935 he started growing Saintpaulias as a

hobby and he had begun to specialize in them when the war started," he added.

He went on to tell us how badly that part of Germany had suffered then, and that during the war only vegetables could be grown. Luckily, his father was able to save a few of his best plants and about 1949-50 he was able to return to his hobby. In 1951 he entered his first commercial flower show in Hanover, won the first prize medal for his Saintpaulias and this was the catalyst which re-

vived his interest after the war.

Rhapsodies have been painstakingly bred to be hardy disease resistant plants, with blossoms which are guaranteed against flower drop.

As an African violet enthusiast, who loves collecting and experimenting, I haven't forgotten the other growers. We who have become hooked on violets appreciate the many and varied types which are released every year, with no strings attached. We owe you a great debt.

Growers Hear Informative Talks

Mrs. Charles R. Russell

111 Koenig 2

Bryan, TX 77801

Damage done by mites, mealy bugs, thrips, nematodes and other insect pests to African violets was viewed by African violet enthusiasts from across the state of Texas at the state convention and horticultural competition held by the Lone Star AV Council at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. Over 200 members from 35 clubs in Texas viewed the slide presentation by Dr. Charles Cole, area entomologist, Texas Agricultural Extension service, who called attention to pesticides and their use in destroying such pests. The state meet was hosted by the Brazos Valley AVC, Linda Ray, president.

"Take It With a Grain of Salt" was the subject of a talk on the salinity of African violets by Richard Norris, TAMU PhD candidate. Mr. Norris conducted a visual experiment to show the ionic nature of salts and he further discussed the definition of salts in relation to plants. He pointed out that salts furnish all the essential elements necessary for African violets except for carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. He stated that there are two types of salt problems we growers may encounter: an osmotic effect or a specific toxic ion effect.

Dr. Wendel Horne, professor of plant pathology at TAMU, gave a detailed study of fungi affecting African violets, the damage they may cause, and remedial measures to alleviate this problem. After a slide presentation of infected plants, Dr. Horne said many fungi can be eliminated with the use of Benomyl or Benlate.

Dr. Ed McWilliams, TAMU floriculture professor, gave a slide presentation which showed lovely color photographs of gesneriads, some of which he collected in Brazil.

Mrs. Brennan A. Forcht of Arlington discussed the care and grooming of African violet species plants.

At the luncheon, show chairman, Mrs. Don Phillips of College Station, announced the winners: Mrs. Brennan A. Forcht of Arlington, the President's Award and Tri-Color Award for the best of show, 'May Morn'; best single blossom, 'Starshine'; best gesneriad, 'Nematanthus perianthomega'; Mrs. Terrance R. Leary of Austin, best miniature, 'Little Rascal', best AV species plant, 'S. pendula'; Francis Young of Austin, best variegated foliage, 'Nancy Reagan'; Mrs. W. N. Williamson of College Station, 2nd best double blossom, 'B. Michelle'; Debbie Philbeck Slater of Houston, best AV trailer, 'Tucson Trail'; Mrs. R. T. Davis of Austin, best seedling, 'IE 36'; seven-year old Cari Ray of College Station, best geneva-edged AV, 'Hondo'; Verna L. Hudson of Houston best plant hybridized by June Swift, 'Southland Grape'; Mrs. Mickey Ray of College Station, best plant hybridized by Howard Utz, 'Geronomo'; Geviene Perkins of Houston, 2nd best variegated foliage, 'Top Dollar'; Mrs. Henry Hebert of Nederland, 2nd best two-toned blossom, 'Bell Ringing Fool'.

During the luncheon, by a vote of all the guests, Mollie Richie of Houston won a \$10 cash award for her *Aeschynanthus Purple Pagoda*.

Mrs. Terrance Leary of Austin state president and advertising manager of the African Violet Magazine, presided at the business session.

Dr. J. B. Jung, of Alexandria, La., president of Dixie AVS, extended greetings from the Dixie AVS.

A tour of the A&M greenhouses concluded the day's events.

COMING EVENTS must reach the Editor's desk before the deadline dates. See page 3 under MAGAZINE for deadline dates.

HI HOPES DID IT AGAIN!

*Nell-Sue Tyson,
Ways and Means Chairman, 1975
Datha Vollmer,
Ways and Means Chairman, 1976*

For several years Hi Hopes Study Club (a maximum of 18 members) in Denver, CO, has conducted successful African violet sales. The purpose is to raise money to send a delegate to our AVSA Convention, and to further the interest of the general public in growing African violets. We hold our sales in March, and plan them a year ahead. This gives us plenty of time to have plants of all sizes and good color range.

Our Ways and Means chairman reviews suggestions from prior sales and then asks members to do pre-sale jobs. Written suggestions pertaining to each job are given to members three months prior to the sale.

A good Publicity committee is essential for a successful sale. This committee makes posters, sends postcards to buyers of the previous sale and contacts newspapers, radio and TV stations.

Our Leaf chairman and her committee make cardboard packets with a pocket to hold leaves. Petioles are wrapped in wet cotton and foil. Packets are placed in plastic envelopes with a label on the front indicating name, hybridizer, and color strip designating blossom color. A free leaf is given with each purchase with an additional 25¢ charge for each leaf thereafter.

Match-stick curtains are taken apart and cut in 5" lengths. Flags are made of these to hold name of plant, hybridizer, and again, a corresponding color strip of paper on each non-blooming plant. This color strip has helped us in setting up the sale and helped our customers to easily locate a particular color desired.

Supplies are ordered in quantity ahead of the sale (and sold to members at cost) for correct potting, etc. Also, they are sold to customers the day of the sale at retail cost.

A diagram of table layout is given at the last meeting prior to the sale, so members will know where to place their plants when brought in. Last year we had a special table of Centennial-Bicentennial plants as an added attraction. Large plants are attractively boxed at home, using green florist paper. These plants are later sold in these boxes saving time of the wrappers. These plants are placed in a prominent location. Miniatures and starter plants are placed in stuffed berry baskets. These are placed in designated areas, with starter plants separated by color. Other Gesneriads have a

separate table with hanging plants nearby. The last two years we have seen a growing interest in trailers, and they, too, have a special location.

Now the Pricing Crew starts their big job! Pricing has been previously discussed at the meeting prior to the sale, using example plants as a guide. Prices are put on a separate marker which indicate the member's special number, so that she will get her "percentage credit" after the sale. Plants are priced nominally. Our object is not to make a profit, but just to defray the cost of setting up the sale, the actual Convention expenses (tours are her own obligation) and to reimburse the grower's cost of producing the plant.

Our sales have grown each year and last year we needed four cashiers during the morning hours to handle the crowd. Our treasurer acts as chairman for this important job and it is her duty to select cashiers, round up adding machines for the day of the sale, and figure expenses, taxes, and profits after the sale. A percentage of the profits is then given back to the grower to help compensate for the actual expense of producing the plant — an added incentive to grow many good, healthy plants. Pre-stamped cards with place for name, address, phone and zip are placed near each cashier for people who wish to be notified of our next sale. There is space for comments so that they may ask for additional information on clubs, AVSA membership, and plants they were not able to find at the sale. The Ways and Means chairman and members volunteer to follow up on requests.

The Wrapping Crew has a very important job. Without them plants would not arrive home safely. Last year we had six wrappers for four cashiers during peak hours. Pre-boxed plants are placed sideways in large grocery sacks (where possible) or covered securely with green florist or newspaper. Members divided the task of bringing beer boxes for packaging smaller plants. These boxes were also handed out to prospective buyers by the hostess as people entered, thus enabling them to shop more easily. We also have several members "floating" on the floor, restocking tables and helping buyers shop. Each Hi Hopes member wears her special matching Club apron which distinguishes her.

This is a very special day for us, our large project for the year, but in order to do it well, and



PLANT SALE—Here are customers at the Hi Hopes AVS plant sale held in Denver, CO. During the two-day sale 13 members sold \$3,000 worth of African violets.

easily, it takes a lot of planning so that things run smoothly. We have had many nice compliments from our customers who return each year, not only to help us make money to send our delegate to the AVSA Convention, but to enjoy shopping in a fairyland of beautiful plants.

RECIPE FOR PLANT SALE

Good cooperation before the sale on the nasty little jobs we have to do to make the sale run smoothly.

An abundance of good plants in all sizes by all growers.

Good publicity for a large crowd of eager buyers.

Congenial atmosphere which makes for two pleasant days even though they are tiring ones.

Moderate prices to make buying a "must".

Floor workers whose help our guests so much appreciate.

Four cashiers who speed the buyers along before they get too frustrated.

Careful wrappers who help get the plants safely into their new homes.

Husbands whose patience before the sale and help during the sale make the burden lighter.

A photographer whose good pictures commemorate the occasion.

A security guard for peace of mind.

Good mathematicians to figure the "loot" after everyone else has collapsed.

A Ways and Means chairman to blend all ingredients well.

Saintpaulias Fit Into Four Major Classifications

*Julia M. Brittain
322 Mill Stream
Houston, TX 77037*

In my comparatively brief "life" as an AV grower, I seem to have identified four major classifications of Saintpaulians. Sometimes the classes overlap; sometimes not.

First, there is the commercial grower who, for business reasons, must grow a maximum number of plants in a minimum amount of space. These growers are the inventors and the experimenters; the first to develop and try new methods and products. Naturally, most will grow what sells best. Some will grow a little bit of everything. Others go into hybridizing with the desire, not only to generate business, but also to create something new and appealing to even the most experienced AV grower.

Second, there is the casual grower who grows usually for eye appeal alone. These are not generally AVSA members. The really casual grower cares nothing for symmetry or the cultural condition of the foliage. Frequently, their purchase of a violet is because "it matches something in my decor".

Third, there is the highly competitive show grower who grows all year round with an eye to show and capture the blue ribbons. These growers want maximum growth and maximum bloom all of the time. Rarely will they experiment and buy a new variety they have not already seen as a blue ribbon show plant. Rarely will they try anything new after they are once established in a growing pattern.

Fourth, it seems that most of us fit into a "hybridized" class of growers who do take their growing seriously but who are not afraid to try something new. These are the ones who will give any new variety a chance to prove itself. These use some of their precious space to propagate babies for a club sale; grow for show but are not heart-broken over a red ribbon; and are just as interested in the quality of a friend's collection as they are their own.

The fourth classification of Saintpaulians seems to be the most interested and the most interesting. Perhaps, it is because they are a combination of the best qualities of the first three classes. Not only are they the backbone of AVSA and our affiliate clubs, but they are also what keeps AV growing fun and dynamic.

Decorating The Home With African Violets

George A. Elbert
801 West End Avenue
New York, NY 10025

(Sketches by Virginie Elbert)

It is only relatively recently that we have been able to bloom a great variety of plants indoors. Our concern with growing has been in the forefront and their proper use as home decoration a neglected subject. Most people have been content with displaying their plants very much as they might cut flower bouquets. Cut flower arrangement and display, which have been thoroughly explored, have nothing to do with interior decoration. Display is temporary. A display plant can be plumped down almost anywhere and makes no demand on us save to admire it. Decoration, on the other hand, is permanent and is a much more complex affair.

Decorating with plants — or any other object of beauty — means integrating it into a scheme of arrangement in which the individual plant or planting, attractive in itself, relates to everything else in a room and is only a part of an overall design. Plants used as decoration perform the same functions as furniture or art objects. If we add an element to a decorative scheme we are often obliged to shift everything else in such a way that the harmony of the effect is not destroyed by the intruder. Otherwise our rooms come to look like a collection of totally unrelated objects filling any available space.

In recent years we have become more and more aware that interior decorators were tossing plants into their rooms without either knowledge of the plants or of their function. It was the thing to do and they did it without understanding what plants fitted the situations or whether they would even survive. Anybody familiar with plants will observe that the beautiful photographs in home decorating magazines are usually misleading regarding the placing and the type of plants shown. The designer may not be responsible, for it is the photographer who arranged (or rearranged) plants and furniture in relation to his camera lens and his light sources. The plants look pretty but they could not grow there. The plants in the window, moreover, are growing inward, away from the light and toward the camera. At first sight everything looks logical and decorative in the illustration because it is two

dimensional. But if you were to walk into the actual room the plants would seem totally misplaced.

When we (Jinny and I) started writing our forthcoming book on decorating with house plants (*The House Plant Decorating Book*, Dutton, Spring 1977) we had to restudy the whole matter and develop principles to work by. This could only be a beginning but at least something to hang on to, and a vast improvement over the “stuff them in the window” or the “place them anywhere they look good in a photograph” school. We had to figure out where plants could be placed in relation to natural light, what was the role of artificial light in extending their use in a room, and what effect the availability of plants might have on arrangement of furniture and even its design. As more and more people grow plants indoors these principles will be put to work by decorators, designers and growers who have a desire to use plants to the best advantage as decoration in their homes.

There are enough examples around for us all to be aware that the most useful plants for decoration are almost all foliage plants for medium to large size. Palms, large ferns, big succulents, aroids and liliaceous plants are important categories. So are the trailing plants grown in baskets. These plants are able to stand alone, grow slowly, and above all do not require much light. Some of them we rate as cast iron plants — those which can take a tremendous amount of neglect without succumbing.

When I say these plants can stand alone I mean that they can be placed individually as semi-permanent decoration of a room. We can consider them permanent from the point of view that if they do grow too large or die off eventually they are easily replaced.

But when we come to thinking about the smaller plants, whether foliage or flowering, the distinctions partly disappear and, for the purpose of decoration, there appeared to be very little difference between them. All required either being set into a special architectural or furniture framework or be massed.

This inability to differentiate in terms of decoration was particularly galling in the case of African violets which are the most popular flowering plants for the home. I had visions of illustrations in numerous issues of horticultural magazines featuring African violets displayed at conventions either for judging or as arrangements, in the growing areas of hobbyists or on show with other plants or accessories. All of these were either temporary displays or purely utilitarian and could not be imitated for interior decoration. They served very well, however, to demonstrate an extreme example of the difficulty.

Of course, in my mind's eye I was seeing the most popular form of the African violet plant — a circle of overlapping leaves with a raised cluster of flowers in the center. A variation might involve inflorescences being more widely scattered, but the basic design remained the same.

This type of symmetry we have encountered in only a few flowering gift plants bred and grown entirely for temporary display such as florist Gloxinias and cyclamens, plants most people throw out after they have finished blooming. Quite apart from any problem of keeping the plants alive was their impermanence in use which is certainly due to their form. A pleasing asymmetry in plants is generally considered preferable to perfect regularity for decorative purposes.

In a situation such as this one we look for analogies. It seems to me that it is fair to compare symmetrical African violets plants with a bouquet of real violets — the leaves green all around and the blue flowers in the center. What can one do with such a bouquet — whether cut or in a pot — except to display it in a vase or cachepot somewhere — anywhere on tables, mantels and sideboards?

If, however, we take into consideration that African violets do continue to grow and bloom — in fact better than any other indoor plant we know — and if we visualize them as used in furniture we begin to see a glimmer of what can ultimately be done with this fine plant in interior decoration. If we include the less symmetrically grown plants, suckering miniatures and trailers, the possibilities are considerably extended.

The following suggestions may help people to start thinking about African violets as features of interior decoration.

1. In windows African violets are often grown at sill level on a shelf with the pots set on gravel or plastic crate in trays or in individual saucers. They make a nice spot of color but the real purpose is growing and the arrangement of the pots and plants is secondary. Thus one sill garden looks very much like another and does not relate to the decor



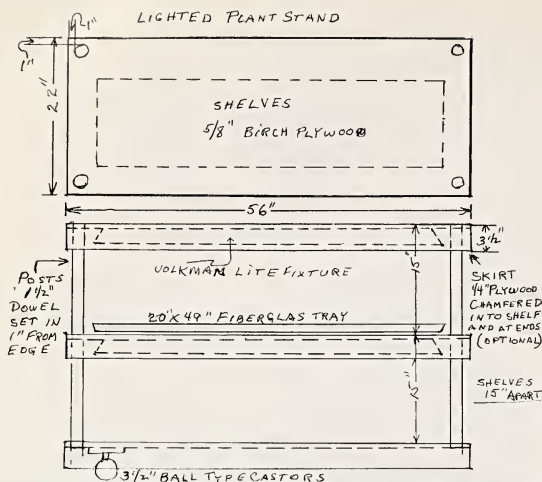
WINDOW GARDEN — Here's an ideal window garden with two hanging baskets of trailing African violets at the top, two others of the flat type at a lower level, and a planting area made with a half round or shallower the width of the window. Support the shelf with angle irons or legs. The front should be faced with vertically oriented split bamboo shade, tatami, decorative cloth or a solid wall of vertical wood strips stained or painted. The top of the front must reach to sill level and the shelf surface must be sufficiently below the top edge of the front to hide the pots.

of the room.

When we no longer use curtains and drapes at a window we are faced with the problem of glare and the bareness of window frames. The solution with plants is baskets at the top and/or vines around frame and top. By setting attractive plants at sill level we draw the eyes downward and away from glare.

For the baskets or hanging pots you should use trailing violets. Some of the suckering miniatures allowed to run will assume a very pretty form without growing so large. The device of growing A.V.'s on glass or other shelving attached to the window at different levels is almost purely utilitarian. Flat growing A.V.'s must be seen from above and if placed higher than eye level are inferior even as display to other plant choices.

The sill must be treated differently. The main feature is a trough at least as deep as the pots you will use. It can be of metal, wood made water tight with epoxy, or plastic. This trough must be sup-



SHELF FOR VIOLETS — Here's the planting area on the shelf. Fill the available space with a rectangular tray or trough of any desirable depth. African violets will be grown on the tray while the two spaces on the sides are reserved for framing ferns or other foliage plants.

ported by an enclosing structure or stand reaching to the floor. Make the shape of the trough-stand rectangular or curved inward. Make the front of the stand, facing into the room, a solid surface or a framed texture such as expanded metal, grass cloth or a textile.

If you want to minimize the decorative impact of the trough-structure the easiest solution is to finish it in the same color or cover with the same wall paper as the walls of the room. If you have a particular style of furniture finish the stand in a matching stain and/or provide decorative details which match the design. This is not always easy or economical, but it is meant to last and makes a big difference in appearance.

Do not leave the space between trough and floor open — by supporting it with legs.

1. Fill the trough with sufficient drainage material to lift the top of the plants well clear of the sides. Or fill it with perlite or sphagnum moss and plunge the pots into it. By moistening the filler material nearly ideal conditions will be created for growing.

2. Along a wall with one or more windows, construct a 12-inch wide shelf the full length and finish to match furniture or walls. To the front of the shelf attach a short valance. Install two tube fluorescent lamps below — Verilux TruBloom or a combination of Cool White and Warm White.

Presuming a height of 30 inches, set a shelf 15 inches below the upper one, also with valance. If the valance strip is made, say 7 inches wide, it can project 3 inches above the shelf and three inches below. This will serve the double purpose of hiding the bottom of the pots and the light of the tubes.

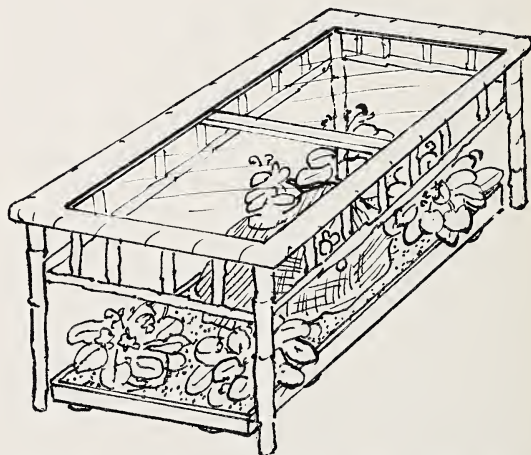
Extend a 3 to 4 inches by 1-inch strip of wood on edge of the floor below the leading edge of the upper shelves. Shallow trays will hold the pots. This second shelf should have the same fluorescent installation as the first.

African violets can be grown on these two shelves and the exact arrangement is not important as they will be massed. The top shelf should be used for display.

Many variations of this pleasing arrangement are possible. Parts of between shelf spaces can be used for other purposes, including cabinets for storage. Shape can be adapted to the architecture of the room and run down side walls or fill in corners. In many homes where space is at a premium these structures are the answer to installing a greater growing area.

3. In a storage wall or shelving unit, install two tube fluorescent fixtures for light gardens in some of the spaces and leave others for books, objects of art and enclosed storage. The arrangement of the alternate light gardens/object display areas is up to you and is a matter of visual judgement. However, the spaces reserved for flat topped African violets should be below eye level. Trailers can be grown at a somewhat higher position.

I have found that the two tube fixtures need not fill the width of the space. For years I have



COFFEE TABLE — How's this idea for a glass-topped coffee table? Tray on floor is equipped with rollers or casters. Make it of metal or wood sealed with epoxy. Cover surface with Japanese brook stones. Place a decorative tufa or feather rock in the center and plant with a couple of miniatures. Four A.V.'s of suitable size are set on the pebbles at the corners of the tray. Lighting is by means of two Slimline fluorescent tubes in sideways fixtures attached to the long axis.

used 24-inch lengths of tube to fill 36-inch wide shelves without any loss of blooming. Shelving of light gardens over 5 feet high should have a six-inch valance, at 4 feet it can be four inches and below that 3 inches are sufficient. The irregular width of the valances, far from being a drawback, is one of the attractions of this arrangement. The gardens reserved for African violets are permanent but the plants themselves can be changed at will.

4. Almost any table with legs at the corners makes a light garden where you can grow African violets and beautify your room at the same time. The idea needs little explanation, as coffee and end tables with built-in fluorescent lighting are offered by manufactures. You need only follow their example in converting existent furniture to this use.

Should you wish to utilize a glass top table and look through to the plants below, place the single fluorescent tube fixtures along the sides.

5. Narrow vertical niches or cabinets of that shape built out from a wall in foyer or dining room make beautiful settings for single African violet plants. Light them with 75 watt reflector lamps (not one of the excessively hot "growth" lamps). Although this design is for display it is a permanent part of the decoration. Where people in the past have placed a herb jar or small sculpture

or piece of ceramic the African violet plant will prove both more colorful and more intimate.

6. Cabinets on stands, if properly designed to match furniture, add richness of effect to any room. The front should be framed on all sides, the top valance being the broadest. Equip with a two-tube fluorescent fixture. Designing or doing it yourself you can have a handsome piece that could compare with any manufactured light garden you can buy in the store. However, do not ignore the possibilities of cabinets and wall units sold in furniture and department stores. They are easily converted to light gardens growing and blooming African violets. Second hand show cases from stores are often both inexpensive and handsome.

These suggestions are only meant to set you thinking and planning. The number of possibilities of growing and displaying African violets in decorative situations is infinite.

(ED. NOTE: Similar ideas and many more are developed in "The House Plant Decorating Book," (Dutton) which is the American Garden Guild Book Club selection for February 1977; also in "The Miracle Houseplants, the Gesneriad Family," (Crown) which is just out and which is proving an outstanding success with all kissing cousins' growers.

Plant Stands Constructed To Meet Needs of Growers

(ED. NOTE: This is the first of several articles dealing with plant stands which have been constructed by African violet growers).

"I have two plant stands that are very simple to put together," says Loretta Branigan, Box 42, South Otselic, NY 13155. "The lights can be plugged into any regular outlet.

"I bought two pieces of something like plywood. It is a little heavier and cheaper. Buy seconds or the cheapest material you can find. This material is sometimes used for kitchen shelves. It is 24 inches wide, 60 inches long, and 3/4 inch thick. I bought two pairs (four legs each) of black legs and fastened one leg to each corner of the board. I covered each table with aluminum foil.

"Then I bought two commercial lights on a standard and it has two fluorescent tubes. The fixture is 48 inches long and legs or standard are adjustable, so you can place it as close to the plants as you wish. I placed one on each table.

"Then I bought green plastic trays about 12 inches wide and 24 inches long. Four trays will fit nicely under the lights. After this I bought a 50-pound bag of chips for 99 cents and put a layer in each tray. I put water on the chips and set the plants on them. The water provides humidity.

"You may think of these as tables instead of plant stands, but they fit my needs and are tables that one can put together even if they're all thumbs."

TWO-TIERED STAND

"Recently I built a two-tiered stand using two six-foot long shelves, 22 inches wide," writes Bertha Wright, 450 SW Fourth Street, Cooper, TX 75433.

"In each shelf I hung a double 48-inch fixture

as near the ceiling of the shelf as possible. The shelves are 24 inches apart. My violets just love this stand.

"I have a friend who has two three-tiered

Violets Enjoy Lighted Garden

*Mrs. Robert M. Miller
Deer Park, Apt. 4
8857 Liberia Ave.
Manassas, VA 22110*

Living in an apartment I longed to have the beauty of a garden around me. I always had foliage plants but when I acquired my first African violet it was 'love at first sight'.

To my dismay however, after the original blooms faded I couldn't get it to bloom again so I put it under my single tube under-the-counter light in my kitchen and within three weeks I had a bloom once more.

Well, now I wanted more violets but I was running out of space so I decided to design an artificial light garden that was not only utilitarian but blended nicely with the colonial decor of my living room. What I came up with was a three tiered stand, each tier holding a forty-eight inch two-tube light with reflectors. It measured 72 inches high, 53 inches wide and 28 inches deep. I had a local carpenter construct it to my specifications and had valances added to hide the light fixtures. My hus-

15-inch Wooden Legs Form Stand

"When I went shopping for plant stands, I found them too small for my use, so decided to build my own," writes Mrs. Eva Dale Bakehouse, R. 3, Galconda, IL 62938. Now she has two, designed with the decorated legs used to make tables and book shelves. Here's what she did:

"First, I found the 15-inch wooden legs so that I could put my lights under the shelves and have my violets 12 inches from the lights. The wooden legs are put together with plastic screws. It takes four legs for each shelf.

"Then to the lumber company for 3/4-inch plywood, 24 x 48 inches, around which I placed molding and varnished the shelves and legs. I placed two 48-inch Gro-Lux light fixtures under each shelf, the bottom of which had been painted white. My stands are four shelves high. On the top shelf of one stand I keep a collection of pretty pots for display in which to put violets in for customers to take to hospitals. The stand is high enough off the floor for storage of my plastic jugs of water and fertilizer.

"The other stand is built like the first one, only

stands, the same dimensions as mine. Her violets are gorgeous under Gro-Lux, tinted Lifeline tubes, same as mine. This is just right for us here in Cooper."



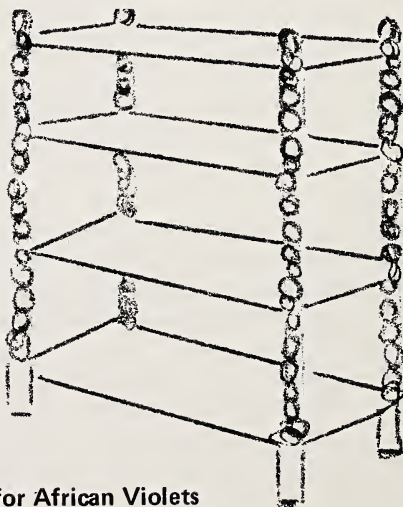
Lighted Garden

band then stained the wood to match our antique pine furniture and gave it two coats of paste wax to resist water spills. We then decided it would be even more attractive with a trellis, so using strips of plywood stained to match the stand we added the trellis for vining plants and appearance.

By having it made to our specifications and finishing it ourselves we saved a lot of money and have a beautiful piece of furniture that complements our living room. Now we have blooming violets year round even on those gray winter days.

I have a mitered board around the top with plastic and chicken grit, where I grow my baby violets for sale.

"In these two stands I have 90 large violets and 170 babies. On the bottom shelves are my variegated violets."



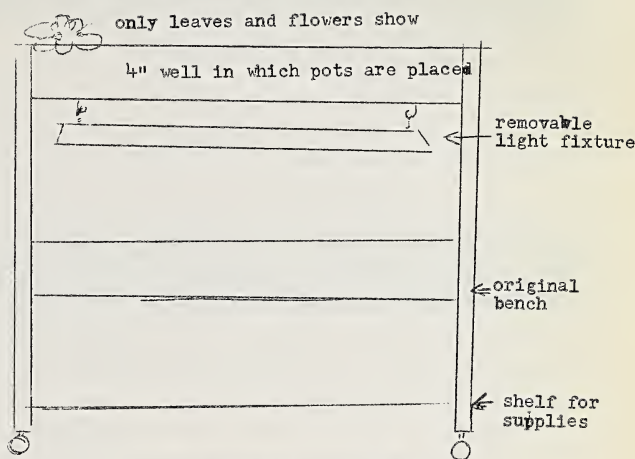
Ideal for African Violets

Turns Piano Bench Into Plant Stand

"My plant stand is not exceptional, but it was evolved by chance", says Mrs. Dean Limbacher, Rt. 1, Box 94, Fresno, OH 43824.

"I had an old piano bench on which I put my violets," she continued, "I like wick watering, which made the plants stand up high. So I took the top off the bench and set my plants down in it. In this way the pots were covered. Only the lovely leaves and flowers could be seen.

"It worked so well that I had another bench made just like it. I put one on top of the other. This left room for a fluorescent fixture. I refinished the new bench to match the walnut finish of the original one. The stand is very attractive and is in my living room. Now I have plans for adding another bench to the top. Hope I can do this."



Two Benches Form Stand

Has Eight Stands For Her Violets

Sybil Behrens of Adams, NE 68301 fashioned her own plant stands. And she built them all! Each stand is 5 foot, 4 inches tall and 4 foot, seven inches wide. The shelves are 16½ inches apart. Here's her story.

"To start I had all the lumber cut to order at the lumber yard. A small fee is charged for this but to me it was worth it.

"Here's a list of materials needed: Two 1x4 select fir, 5 ft, 4 in. long ripped into two pieces, making four uprights; eight 1x4 select grade, 4 ft. 7 in. long; eight 1x4 select grade, 20¼ in. long; eight 1x10 utility grade 4 ft. 5½ in. long for shelves; four 1x4 utility grade, 4 ft. long and four 1x4 utility grade, 16 in. long, ripped in two pieces, for shelf supports; one box of one-inch screws, and a handful of finishing nails.

"First, select the front and back pieces, using a bit to make the holes and countersink holes. We fastened all shelf supports and uprights with screws. One-inch is o.k. We have found a small finishing nail here and there help keep them in line. Be careful that you leave just enough space beyond the leg for the end pieces to fit smoothly. If you desire, you can miter the corners.

"Screw the shelf supports on end pieces.

"We like to leave a slight lip above the shelves so things can't slip off of finished stand quite so easily.

"With finishing nails, nail end pieces in place. These fit inside of front and back pieces, making the stand 22 inches deep. With a handsaw carefully cut out a notch on the corners of boards used for shelves so they will fit around the uprights. Tack



LIGHTED STAND—Sybil Behrens grows beautiful African violets on plant stands she constructed herself. And they're mighty attractive stands, too!

shelf boards in place with finishing nails. Several friends have used plywood for shelves and one used pressed wood.

"I then sanded, stained and put on two coats of plastic finish.

"I use the TubeCraft trays and egg crate diffusing panels on these. Holes are drilled through the shelves for bolts to hold lamps in place. I also have a fourth lamp fastened to the ceiling, making the top shelf a good place for young plants. The lights are normally on 10 hours a day. I tried 11 hours. This was a mistake. Plants started to reach."

Window Growing Under Lights

Linda A. Neumann
11620 Mapleridge Drive
North Royalton, OH 44133

My story is one which eventually becomes familiar to most African violet enthusiasts. Although it all started with only six violet plants, it was only a short time before more growing space was required. A new plant shelf was to be designed and built, but until it was completed, something temporary had to be arranged.

Last year I had a cracked window replaced. It was the type of window in which sash and all are replaced, not just the glass. I saved the window and sash with the thought of using the glass at a later date. With an immediate need for more plant shelf space at hand, I decided to use my window and sash as a temporary shelf.

Two screw eyes were placed in each end of the window sash which was then suspended from the basement joist by four chains. Next, a double light four-foot fluorescent fixture was suspended over the window shelf.

Thirty African violet plants in 3" pots were then put on my new window shelf. An old table was placed under the shelf and a 2' x 4' piece of 5/8" plywood placed on top of it. Fifty baby violet plants in 2 1/4" pots were then placed on the plywood sheet. (See Photo 1).

TERRARIUMS

Terrariums are becoming more and more popular and because of this terrarium-growers are being warned not to mix cacti and woodland plants.

It was pointed out that the flora should be either dry soil plants for a desert-like planting or woodland plants requiring more moisture. Conditions for cacti and succulents just won't work for ferns and woodland natives.

Terrarium popularity is attributed to the fact that these miniature, self-contained greenhouses are attractive and easy to care for, requiring water only every six months if kept tight.

Over-watering is said to be probably the most common mistake in terrarium gardening. Best way is to spray the foliage, avoiding a thorough soaking of the soil.

See Page 3 to find out how AVSA carries on its business.

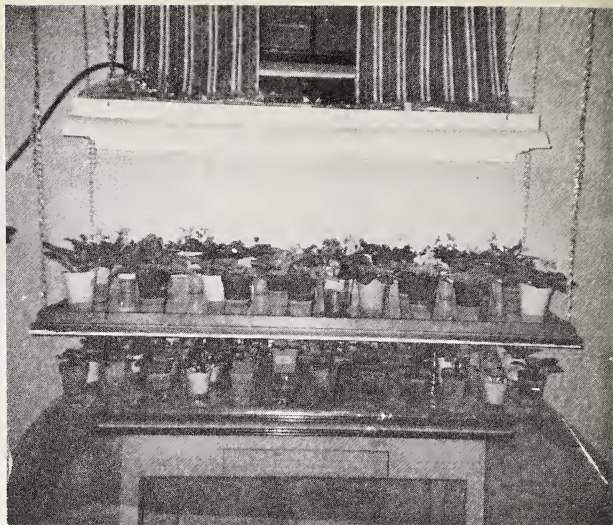


Photo # 1

When it is time to water the babies, I simply slide the plywood sheet most of the way out from under the window shelf, keeping the back edges of the plywood on the table and resting the front edge on a stool. (See Photo 2).



Photo # 2

Although the lights are turned on for 12 hours each day, I thought that perhaps the babies on the bottom might not get enough light because of the larger plants above. This, however, was not the case. After about three months on the shelf, the baby plants have almost doubled in size, one of them even bloomed, and the larger ones have grown so much that they are overlapping and blooming their heads off.

If you need a temporary light set-up, keep this idea in mind. It has sure worked well for me, and it is really quite economical. Two levels are adequately illuminated for the price of one.

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Volume 30

Number 3

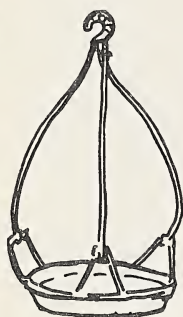
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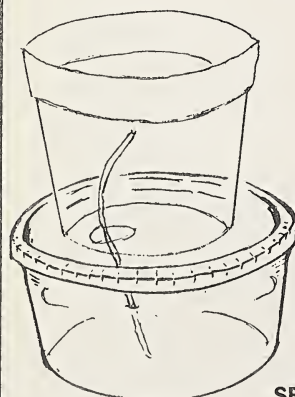
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18. Ronn Nadeau—Hybrid African Violet Seeds
13. The Parson's Series—Keith Hayman, Sr., Has Fresh Cut Leaves
20. Paw Paw Everlast Labels—Permanent Metal Garden Label
10. Plant Marvel Laboratories—For Optimum Growth and Bloom Feed As You Water
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STRICTLY BUSINESS - - YOUR BUSINESS

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ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS, IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM

SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Editor.

AFFILIATES: See list in Nov. issue. For information on show awards, how to start a chapter or questions on new or renewal membership, write Mrs. Wayne W. Schroeder, 1739 N. 74th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635. Send officer information sheet received with charter to Mrs. Schroeder by July 1.

AVSA EMBLEMS: See January issue. Member, Past President, Life Member pins. Own and wear them with pride. Order from AVSA office.

AVSA OFFICE: Mrs. Wade H. Bell, Office Manager, Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901

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BEST VARIETIES - HONOR ROLL COMPILER: Mrs. M. G. Gonzales, 200 Doris Ave., San Jose, CA 95127

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BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND: Send contribution, club or individual, to Mrs. L. F. Lidiak, 4503 Sinclair Ave., Austin, TX 78756

BYLAWS: See September issue.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Albert Buell, Buell's Greenhouses, Box 218, Eastford, CN 06242

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS: See list in November issue.

CONVENTION:

AWARDS: See January issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061

PROGRAM: See March issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson, R. R. 1, Box 70, Tavares, FL 32778

SCHEDULE: See January issue.

TIME AND PLACE: If your club or a group of clubs would like to sponsor a national convention in your area, write to Mrs. H. Harold Baker, 2182 Stanford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

CULTURE FOLDERS: Free from AVSA office, for distribution at shows or by commercial members with plants. Membership application included.

CUMULATIVE INDEX: Write AVSA Office.

EDITOR: Mrs. Grace Foote, 211 Allien Pl., Port Arthur, TX 77640

HONOR ROLL: See June issue.

JUDGES: See November issue Judges and Teachers list.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For information on holding a school or to become a qualified judge, write to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918

LIBRARY: See June issue for lists of slide programs and packets available from AVSA Library. Order from AVSA office. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate for library, write Harvey Stone, 51 Peach Highlands, Marblehead, MA 01945

LIFE MEMBERS: See June issue for list.

MAGAZINE:

ADVERTISING MANAGER: For advertising rates, copy and information write Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, St. Petersburg, FL.

ARTICLES: See to Editor.

DEADLINE DATES: June issue, Mar. 1; Sept. issue, June 1; Nov. issue, Aug. 1; Jan. issue, Oct. 1; Mar. issue, Dec. 1.

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SUPPLEMENT: Send any correction and/or description of new cultivar with hybridizer's name to Plant Registration Chairman.

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APPLICATIONS AND BROCHURES: Free from AVSA office. Please state quantity required. Use for show, commercial sales room or wherever memberships may be solicited.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send your ideas, offers to help or requests for assistance in this work to Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, 4463 W. Seneca Tpk., Syracuse, NY 13215

MINIATURE AND SEMIMINIATURE LIST: \$2.00 Mrs. Sidney Bogin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach, NY 11561

MINUTES: See September issue.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: See Jan. issue.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES: See June issue.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. H. N. Hansen, 708 Wyndale Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, 4605 NW 45th St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319 is available to answer parliamentary questions from affiliates. (Stamped self-addressed envelope must be enclosed for reply).

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QUESTION BOX: Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, 19006

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SHOWS & JUDGES RULES: See November issue.

TALLY TIME: See March issue.

TEACHERS: See November issue for list.

TREASURER'S & AUDITOR'S REPORT: See September issue.

Letter From The AVSA President



Another convention has passed into history. AVSA wishes to express its appreciation and thanks to the Metropolitan St. Louis AVS for hosting the convention, particularly to Chairman Mrs. Daniel Dohm, Vice Chairman Mrs. Dana R. Gipson and Show Chairman Mrs. Jane Francis, and all of the local committees responsible for such a wonderful convention and show.

Sincere thanks also to the dedicated AVSA convention committee chairmen: Awards, Mrs. Richard A. Chase; Commercial Sales & Exhibits, Jimmy Watson; Convention Program, Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson; Convention Time & Place, Mrs. H. Harold Baker; Shows & Judges Chairman, Mrs. James B. Carey and all of their committees. To all those who participated in the workshops and especially the outstanding guest speakers, our most sincere appreciation.

Several changes have been made in Standing Committee Chairmanships: Mrs. Wayne W. Schroeder is now Affiliate Chairman and Harvey Stone the Library Chairman. You will find a complete list of officers, directors and committees in the back of this June magazine. It is put there for your convenience in addressing the proper person concerning any questions you may have in mind.

Along these lines, another important feature in the magazine is page 3 headed – “STRICTLY BUSINESS – YOUR BUSINESS”. I really don’t believe many of you ever look at this page, or perhaps even know that it is there, because I’ve answered a number of requests for information which could have been obtained by referring to this page. Right now would be a good time to familiarize yourself with the “STRICTLY BUSINESS – YOUR BUSINESS” feature.

AVSA membership continues to soar. At the end of January, it totaled a fantastic 24,714 African violet enthusiasts. Can anyone dispute the fact that AVSA is a society to be reckoned with in the world of Horticulture?

Club activities will quiet down a bit now, so do have a pleasant, restful summer and come back in September all refreshed and rarin’ to go!

Sincerely,

Melva

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To be on the Honor Roll, a variety must have appeared on the Best Varieties List for five consecutive years.

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Granger Garden's Never Lovelier No. 1213 (Granger Gardens)
Granger Garden's Sweetheart Blue No. 1225 (Granger Gardens)
Granger Garden's Top Sail No. 1212 (Granger Gardens)
Paul Bunyan (Lyndon Lyon)
Sea Grape (West)

1968

Christmas Holly (Reed)
Champion's Water Lily No. 1289 (Champion's African Violets)
Silver Crest No. 1161 (Mrs. Duane L. Champion)
White Perfection No. 1471 (Lyndon Lyon)

1969

Tommie Lou No. 1744 (Oden)
Peak of Pink No. 1467 (Lyon)
Master Blue No. 1465 (Lyon)
Candy Lips No. 1461 (Lyon)
Clipper No. 1724 (Lyon)
Crown of Red No. 1462 (Lyon)
Plum Tip No. 1468 (Lyon)
Leawala (Lyon)
Full Stop (Lyon)

1970

Strawberry Shortcake No. 1509 (Taylor)
Jolly Giant No. 1549 (Lyon)
My Darling (Luciano)
Purple Choice (Lyon)
Red Honey No. 1551 (Lyon)
Cousin Janet No. 1547 (Lyon)
Icy Peach No. 1642 (Lyon)

1971

Lullaby No. 1783 (Granger)
Pink Jester No. 1598 (Granger)
Prom Queen No. 1533 (Granger)
Henny Backus No. 1725 (Lyon)
Hello Dolly No. 1641 (Lyon)
Tinted Frills (Lyon)
Red Cavalier (Lyon)
Janny No. 1527 (Granger)
Happy Time No. 1866 (Lyon)
Wrangler No. 1731 (Lyon)
Magnifica No. 1643 (Lyon)
Alakazam No. 1723 (Lyon)

Cochise (Lyon)
Emperor No. 1597 (R. J. Taylor)
Ruby (Lyon)

1972

No African violets qualified.

1973

Autumn Russet No. 1777 (Granger Gardens)
Charm Glow No. 1779 (Granger Gardens)
Granger Garden's Pied Piper No. 2021 (Granger Gardens)

1974

Ann Slocomb No. 1907 (Lanigan)
Blizzard (Lyon)
Bullseye (Lyon)
Creekside Moonbeam (Bea Mills)
Dazzling Deceiver No. 1865 (Lyon)
Rhapsodie Claudia (Holtkamp)
Rhapsodie Gisela (Holtkamp)
Rhapsodie Elfriede (Holtkamp)
Triple Threat No. 1989 (Lyon)

1975

Brigadoon No. 1014 (Granger Gardens)
Butterfly White No. 1983 (Lyndon Lyon)
Blue Reverie No. 2013 (Granger Gardens)
After Dark No. 2117 (Richter)
Firebird No. 2018 (Granger Gardens)
Granger's Carefree No. 2221 (Granger Gardens)
Jingle Bells (Richter)
Rhapsodie Gigi (Holtkamp)
Rhapsodie Ophelia (Holtkamp)

1976

Fashionaire No. 2223 (Granger)
Nancy Reagan No. 2167 (Rienhardt)
Happy Harold No. 2165 (Rienhardt)
Top Dollar No. 2168 (Rienhardt)
Poodle Top No. 2053 (Tinari)
Chanticleer No. 1386 (Granger)
Jennifer No. 2006 (Tinari)
Royalaire No. 2023 (Granger)
Floral Fantasy No. 1986 (Lyon)
Softique No. 1957 (Richter)
Granger's Peach Frost No. 2216 (Granger)
Granger's Peppermint No. 2227 (Granger)
Pink Panther No. 2108 (Lyon)

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MARY LOU (MM)—huge frilled pink violet shaped single sticktight bouquet of blooms, plain dark foliage

JOYCE B (MM)—huge full dbl. pink carmine edged plain dark foliage

ROBERTA (GG)—2½" semi dbl. blooms frilled lavender, ruched olive green foliage pretty

PURPLE CASCADE (GG)—large full dbl. deep blue purple carnation fringed edge, wavy variegated cream, pink and green foliage

EXPLORER (UTZ)—semi dbl. lavender with purple tips, quilted foliage, makes large show plant

RIO GRANDE (UTZ)—dark wine dbl. with purple tips, very floriferous, plain foliage show plant

RAIN BEAU (Fredette)—huge semi dbl. lavender with purple splashes, Tommie Lou

variegated foliage, pix pg 50 AVM 6/76

MING ROSE (Fredette)—dbl. pink with green frilled edges, ruched and wavy glossy foliage, pix pg 51 AVM 6/76

CRYSTAL SWAN (Fredette) huge frilly dbl. white stars, wavy foliage floriferous

TRACY (Fredette)—large dbl. pink and red fantasy with frilled edges, rosette forming foliage, heavy blooming

MAGIC GLOW (LL)—giant coral pink with white edges, striking color plain foliage

FREE N EASY (LL)—huge full dbl. fuchsia, early and free blooming plain foliage

LORA LOU (LL)—semi trailer with Tommie Lou foliage, wow, dbl. rose pink blooms

LUCKY LOU (LL)—blue version of Lora Lou

WEE LASS (LL)—dbl. white with crimson red edges, tiny holly foliage on the this adorable miniature

HEAVENLY HALO (EC)—large white with fuchsia markings, blooms ring around medium size plant variegated foliage

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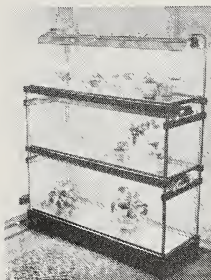
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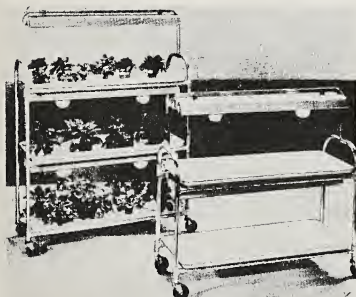
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STARS—This cross will produce seedlings with star shaped blooms, various flower colors and leaf shapes.

BI-COLOR—Various blue & white, red & white, and edged bloomers produced these seeds. Should yield mostly bi-color seedlings.

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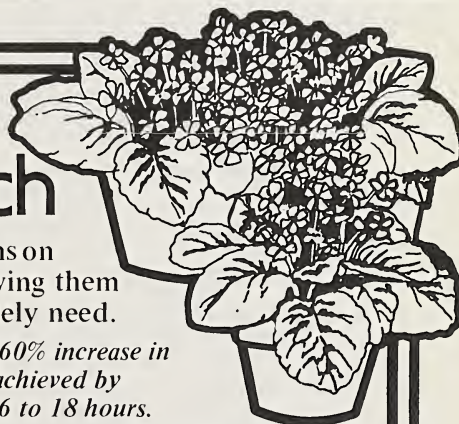
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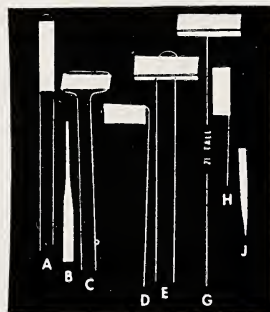
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At this writing the end of the AVSA fiscal year is approaching. Actually, another month will elapse before final compilations will be made; but in reviewing my contribution log, the picture regarding Boyce Edens Research Fund looks pretty good.

Naturally, I am hopeful of reporting that the fund has done well; but equally important — that more individuals/affiliates have had a hand in the growth. The funds that have been given through these voluntary contributions will be added to monies which are contributed by the Commercial Members. All dues from Commercial Members over and above the amount of an individual membership are deposited in the Boyce Edens Research Fund. Hopefully, these combined sources will provide the Research Committee sufficient capital for projects they may have in mind.

It has been a rewarding year for me — I have enjoyed your letters and feel closer to you by virtue of our correspondence. In a number of cases the name of the person to whom an acknowledgment of a memorial or remembrance gift should be sent has not been furnished. If you will enclose this information in your letter of transmittal, I will notify the proper person of your thoughtfulness.

Thank each of you who participated for your cooperation as well as your generosity. I hope that the coming year will see others joining your ranks and sharing the sense of satisfaction that you have achieved. Whether large or small any contribution is most significant because of the fact that you “put your shoulder to the wheel” to the best of your ability.

Contributions made from November 27, 1976, to January 26, 1977.

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Escondido Garden Club, San Diego, CA	15.00
Austin (TX) friends of Rosemary Thompson	
in memory of Jackie Noble	16.00

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AV Study Club of Houston, TX	100.00
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AVS of Staten Island, NY	10.00
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AVSA BOOSTER FUND

Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Dr.
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Many of you attended the AVSA Convention held in St. Louis this past April. Doubtless, you had a good time and their warm and gracious hospitality was outstanding. Your contributions to the BOOSTER FUND assisted them in providing some of the small favors you enjoyed there, such as, enlarging our general program and the continuation and encouragement of many phases of it. Your donations were appreciated. Let us resolve to increase our support to our respective Convention Hosts each year through the BOOSTER FUND.

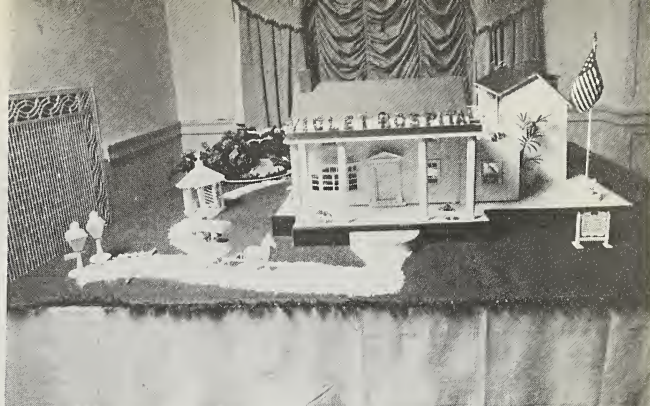
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Capital City AVS, Sacramento, CA in memory of Millie Blair	25.00
AVS of Staten Island	10.00
"Happiness Is" AVS of Longmont, CO ...	8.00
AVS of South Bay, Cupertino, CA	15.00
Mrs. W. F. Anderson, St. Louis, MO in lieu of speaker's fee from Hi Hopes AVC	5.00
Melva Nelson, St. Louis, MO in memory of Percy Crane	5.00
Florence M. Garrity, Roslindale, MA in memory of Percy Crane	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph E. Caye, Windsor, CT in memory of Percy Crane	5.00
Mrs. Dora J. Baker, St. Paul, MN in memory of Percy Crane	10.00
Mrs. W. F. Anderson, St. Louis, MO in memory of Percy Crane	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Plaster, Shreveport, LA in memory of Percy Crane	5.00



Columbus, Ohio
1976

COVER PAGE—Here's the 1976 cover page for the yearbook of the Columbus (OH) African Violet Society. The cover page depicted the Bicentennial theme, 1776-1976, according to Thelma Willcox, club president.



VIOLET HOSPITAL—Probably no other display at the AVSA convention/show in Atlanta created as much interest as the "Violet Hospital", designed and set up by Mrs. Lucile Wasson. The hospital rooms were filled with ailing violets, others convalescing about the grounds, others on crutches. The top photo shows the front view of the hospital, the lower photo the rear view. (Photos by Frank Burton)



HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF THIS?

Every time you fail to answer a letter that requires an answer the following happens:

PAPER IS WASTED because of the additional writing paper and envelope used.

MONEY IS WASTED because of the additional postage.

ENERGY IS WASTED because of all the steps necessary to rewrite the letter and because of machinery used in the postoffice.

TIME IS WASTED because of the repeated effort of the original letter writer.

There is more to **CONSERVATION** than saving the trees in the forest. (Our thanks to Ann Richardson)

COMING EVENTS must reach the Editor's desk before the deadline dates. See page 3 under **MAGAZINE** for deadline dates.



SNOW ORCHID

*Color
Contrasts*

JULY FOURTH



from
Fredette
(Photos by Grower)

ICY
BLUE



LU ANN



BEGINNER'S COLUMN

Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson
RR# 1, Box 70
Tavares, Florida 32778



GROWING UNDER LIGHTS SIMPLIFIED

The subject of growing under lights can be a complex one to a beginner. This article is designed to help you understand the basics. Later, you will want to read some of the excellent articles in the magazine which go into all the details.

Why grow under lights? Because you then have a controlled situation. When you must depend on the weather you get sun some days for a while or all day and some days none at all, whereas with artificial light you can control the amount of constant light. Some growers think that African violets have a rest period. You will find that growing under artificial lights will make a tremendous difference in that your plants will be almost constantly in bloom, provided, of course, that they are given the usual recommended care. There is another advantage. You may grow wherever you please — not necessarily on a window sill. Choose a dark corner if you will, set up a stand and you will have a conversation piece.

There are all kinds of lighted stands (see AVM ads) but if you need an unusual shape or size and have a handy husband he might build one. Keep in mind the size (length, width and depth) of the fixture, the size of pot and plant and the fact that you will want to set the plants 12" to 14" from the tops of the plants under the lights. Measure your largest plants. Smaller ones can be put on strawberry baskets, up-side-down pots, etc. to get them closer to the lights. Usually one fluorescent tube is insufficient so plan on two and if the stand is extra long supplement your long tube with two shorter ones, either the long way or crosswise. My stand has two 40W tubes in the middle and two 20W tubes crosswise on each end, with reflectors. The growing space is 76" x 30".

Because fluorescent lamps are ideal for plant growth and because they are not expensive to run and because they do not generate as much heat as incandescent light, they are the ones to use. There are many different kinds of fluorescent lamps to choose from and I recommend that you try the different ones to see which you prefer. When I first started to grow under lights we had no special

growth lamps and we used regular cool white lamps. I didn't know it then but they give the most light per watt. In time we found that an incandescent bulb helped induce more bloom, the addition of which, at least in my case, resulted in a sort of Reub Goldberg set-up. Now, stands sometimes have built-in outlets for incandescent lamps. I note that some growers are going back to a combination of cool white and warm white and are just as satisfied as if they were using growth lamps. Some growers use Gro-Lux lamps with cool white ones and like the combination. No one can deny that Gro-Lux lamps enhance the beauty of the blossoms. It is for this reason that in AVSA conventions we do not use them. We want the blossoms to look natural but in your home there is no harm in gilding the lily — I mean, African violet! Personally, I like and use the Gro-Lux Wide Spectrum lamps in combination with cool white.

While tubes appear to be working, they do wear out and it is advisable to change tubes at least once a year, more often if they get black at the ends. If you are economy minded and insist upon using them until they burn out, increase your lighting time. Mark the date on the tube when you make the change. Clean tubes are a must. Those full of dust will not emit sufficient light.

Place your light flowered plants (pinks, whites, etc.) around the edges and your darker colors (purple, dark blues, etc.) under the center of the fixtures. Variegated should also be in the middle.

If you want to impress other beginners, speak of "Photoperiod" which is simply the number of hours of light a plant requires to make food. The usual number of hours that the lights should be turned on is around 10 or 12 except when show time is approaching and you find that the blossoms are not coming out fast enough, then you might keep the lights on up to 15 hours. If you find the temperature gets too high in hot weather, turn off the lights during the day and on during the night. Fluorescents do not generate as much heat as incandescents but when the temperatures really soar every bit more counts. Don't fall into

the error of thinking that if a little light is good a whole lot is better. Plants need a period of darkness.

Every stand should have a thermometer to measure temperature and a hygrometer which measures humidity. You can buy them separately or in combination. It is important to know your temperature (ideal between 65° and 75°) and the humidity (ideal 40% to 60%). The brightness of light is important and is measured in footcandles. It is possible to buy a lightmeter but you can tell by the behaviour of your plants if your light strength is about right. Light that is too intense will stunt growth and cause brittle leaves, especially in the center and also bleached foliage (usually the first sign) and outside leaves to hug the pot, while insufficient light causes poor growth, long stems and lack of bloom.

Plants grown under lights should have the same care as those not under lights. However, because they grow faster under lights you may find that you will have to fertilize a little more and repot oftener. Water when temperatures are rising, early enough in the day so that they have a chance to dry before the lights go out.

Planting By The Moon

by EM. HUNT
4648 Fourth Ave.
Niagara Falls, Ont. L2F 4N7

JULY

Fruitful: 4,5,14,15,16,23,24,25
Semifruitful: 1,10,11,21,22,28,29
1st quarter July 16, 4th quarter July 7th

AUGUST

Fruitful: 1,2,10,11,12,20,21,28,29
Semifruitful: 5,6,7,17,18,19,24,25
1st quarter Aug. 14th, 4th quarter Aug. 6th

SEPTEMBER

Fruitful: 7,8,16,17,25,26
Semifruitful: 2,3,14,15,30
1st quarter Sept. 13th, 4th quarter Sept. 5th

OCTOBER

Fruitful: 4,5,6,13,14,22,23,31
Semifruitful: 1,11,12,17,18,26,27,28
1st quarter Oct. 12th, 4th quarter Oct. 5th

NOVEMBER

Fruitful: 1,2,10,11,18,19,20,28,29
Semifruitful: 8,9,14,15,23,24
1st quarter Nov. 11th, 4th quarter Nov. 3rd

DECEMBER

Fruitful: 8,9,15,16,17,25,26
Semifruitful: 6,7,20,21
1st quarter Dec. 10th, 4th quarter Dec. 3rd



JUNE 11 - 12 — Suburban AV Friends' 2nd annual show/plant sale, "Violet Fiesta", at San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, south of Hwy. 92, off at Alameda de las Pulgas. June 11, 2-6 p.m.; June 12, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free admission, Judy Mitchell, chairman, assisted by Harriette Foss. Proceeds of plant sale go to El Portal Campship Fund for orthopedically handicapped.

ROOTING LEAVES

Here's a method of rooting African violet leaves used by Mrs. V. H. Roelle of Peetz, CO 80747.

She says:

"I like to root violet leaves in pots of loose, light growing medium, placed in a plastic bag. But there are times when I receive new leaves and just do not have the time or the necessary materials to plant them that way. So I stick them into the holes of a glass flower frog wet in a small bowl of warm water. You can root them this way, and plant them in pots later when you have the time and material."

GOOD FOR ALGAE

Inez Heinrich of Kansas City, MO, says here's a tip for African violet growers. Here's what she says:

"I save my rainwater. I had one green container and one black. We were gone two months from home and when I returned I found the green container filled with algae. I dumped all the water. The black container was clear and sparkling.

"I got busy and painted all my reservoirs and containers black inside. Now I don't have an algae build-up any more."

DO YOU KNOW . . .

That there is a violet club that knows no state bounds? It's the African Violet Correspondence Club, which has members all over the U.S. and Canada and is now boasting of a new member in the Republic of South Africa. The club publishes a newsletter that contains hints, questions and answers, growing methods and just plain "violet talk." Yvonne Schenfield says if you want to know more about the club send her a self-addressed stamped envelope to 699 West Washington, Bradford, PA 16701.



The Parson's Series

(Photos by Grower)

PARSON'S PEACE

PARSON'S SONG



SOIL MIXES

(ED. NOTE: For benefit of those African violet growers who like to mix their own soils, a series of soil mixtures will be carried in the African Violet Magazine).

To be successful in growing violets, a grower must have a good potting mix, the most important characteristic of which is good drainage, which requires a light, porous, non-packing mix. For optimum plant growth the mixture should have a pH factor between 6.4 and 6.9.

The old standard African violet mix was equal parts of garden loam, leaf mold or peatmoss, and sand. Sterilization or preferable pasteurization of the soil, leaf mold, organic materials, etc., was the only means of eliminating undersirable contamination. This was accomplished by moistening the soil and baking it in a closed container at a temperature of 180° for 30 minutes.

Today we have packaged African violet potting mixtures available for those needing only small quantities.

Many growers, however, have asked for mix formulas used over the country.

FROM CALIFORNIA

Here's a mix, published in The Council News using a one-pound coffee can as a measure:

- 1 can Black Magic Planter Mix

- ¼ can vermiculite

- ¼ can Sponge Rok

- 2 TBSP Charcoal

- 2 TBSP oyster shell

Mix dry ingredients well and then moisten with Hyponex 7-6-19, mixing well. Let stand overnight.

SAYS IT'S GOOD MIX

Mrs. A. Blouw, 822 Elliot Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49501 says the following is a very good mix:

- 3 quart cans Fertilite (soil)

- 6 quart cans Ready Earth

- 5 quart cans Canadian Peat

- 6 quart cans perlite

- 5 tablespoons bonemeal

- 2 tablespoons Super-Phosphate

- 1 quart can charcoal

- 1 quart can dried (dehydrated) cow manure.

Mix together and moisten and place in sealed container. This mix can be used immediately.

When ready to use this mix, I take

2 quarts of the mix and add 2 quarts vermiculite and one quart of perlite and use for regular plants or for baby plants.

USED MIX FOR TWO YEARS

Bertha Wright, 450 SW Fourth Street, Cooper, TX 75432 has been using the following mix for two years and has had very good success, she says:

- 3 quarts Black Magic AV Soil

- 3 quarts Baccto Potting Soil

- 3 quarts coarse perlite

- 1 quart coarse vermiculite

- 1/4 quart (or 1 cup) ground eggshells

- 1/4 quart (or 1 cup) fine chip charcoal

- 1 TB 20% Superphosphate

Mix in a 50-pound Baccto bag or any strong plastic bag by holding top closed, picking up one bottom corner, then the other until well mixed.

Add 1 pint fertilizer solution and mix thoroughly by same method. Fertilizer solution is made with equal parts of Peters (5-50-17) and Peters (12-36-14) mixed thoroughly. Then add one-fourth teaspoon of solution to one gallon of water.

LEAF STARTER MIX

Here's a leaf starter mix, published in Violet Time, the official publication of the AVC of Vancouver, Canada:

- 2 parts vermiculite (horticultural)

- 1 part Sponge Rok (perlite)

- 1 part charcoal

Thoroughly dampen mixture before using. Remember to cut leaf stem (petiole) about 1½ inches in length. Make the cut using a razor blade or very sharp knife, on an angle away from leaf rather than behind. Insert leaf about half an inch into mix. If necessary prop leaf up with a tooth pick to keep it from flopping over. In due course your plantlets will appear. Let them be 1½ inch to 2 inches before separating them from the mother leaf to pot up. Plant only the sturdy ones. These can be started off in the leaf starter mix with a little soil added and then as they grow, more soil can be added.

FROM KANSAS CITY

Mrs. Edward A. (Inez) Heinrich, 6801 Bannister Road, Kansas City, MO 64134 has a soil mix



FAMILY AFFAIR—Martin Miller, Susan Miller and Jennifer Miller, members of the AVS of Syracuse, NY, prove that growing African violets and showing and winning special prizes can really be a family affair. Martin is holding 'Gala', largest blooming plant; Susan has 'Half and Half', Queen of Show, and Jennifer is holding the President's project plant.

which, she says, is used by her and others in clubs in Kansas City. She uses a one-pound coffee can for measuring.

Here's her mix:

1 can of Blue Whale Soil conditioner (or Builder)

1 can of No. 10 grade charcoal

2 cans vermiculite

2 cans perlite

2 teaspoons ground limestone

2 teaspoons Fermate

Mix thoroughly and wet. Let set for 10 days or two weeks.

When I want to mix a large batch, I use my 32-gallon trash container. I have an electric cement mixer — a five-gallon. It works great and fast. After it's mixed, I let our Kansas City sunshine, which reaches 100°, do the rest.

POTTING MIX

The favorite soil mix in England is called the John Innes Compost Mix. The Innes mix is not available in the United States but an equivalent mixture is the Cornell Mix, which is available here or can be made following these instructions: Mix four quarts of vermiculite or perlite, four quarts of shredded peat moss or sphagnum, two level tablespoons of ground limestone and four level tablespoons of 5-10-5 fertilizer.

For the gardener who is not ready to do so much mixing, two parts of prepared Jiffy Mix can be blended with one part perlite or vermiculite to achieve almost the same results.

POTTING TABLES?

Ms. Mary LaClair

P. O. Box 327

Vernon, NY 13476

"From the mouths of babes come words of wisdom" . . . and "from old dressing tables come wonderful potting tables . . . REALLY". Have an old changing table that's too good to throw away but, still not quite good enough to sell or give to someone?

They make swell potting tables, with storage compartments to neatly keep handy, pots, saucers, soil, etc. There's a compartment for clean pots, a separate compartment for pots waiting to be washed, a place for a collection of plant saucers — and if your little one just gave up the changer, your fertilizers and insecticides should be under LOCK & KEY, but if you find one at a garage sale and have no little ones around the house, the hidden compartment underneath the flip top would be a possible place to keep these things out of easy reach and out of little visitors' viewing temptations.

Everything is right there handy and neat and organized.

AND don't overlook that diaper pail — or old step-on garbage can — it's great for keeping potting soil. No more 'hole in the bag worries'.

ORGANIZE YOUR POTTING CORNER AND RE-CYCLE YOUR BABY EQUIPMENT AT THE SAME TIME.

ENERGY CRISIS NO PROBLEM!

Seth B. Paull, who operates Paull's Radio & TV, Marine Supplies, 701 Hope Street, Bristol, RI 02809 had no problem this past winter with the energy crisis and his African violets. Here's his story:

"I grow African violets at 55° to 60° in winter in my cellar until they are as big as I wish the lush green foliage. Then I bring them up into the house at 70°. They bloom enmasse in 4 weeks, much better than the ones I've grown in the house at the same time.

"This is the second year of doing this. I also keep them watered every other day. They're under fluorescent lights, 12" to 15" above them. The plants will not bloom at this temperature though, but like the warmth when brought up from the cellar."

AVSA AFFILIATES

GREETINGS TO ALL - - - When you read this in the June magazine most shows will be in the past. The convention will be over for another year. People will be inspired to start new clubs. Over 50 in 1976! You would never believe the enthusiasm shown in these new groups, even staging shows in their first year - OUTSTANDING!! Keep up the good work! It's a beautiful hobby and so rewarding.

I want to thank the clubs that sent their officer lists to me early. This too is a big help for strangely enough that month of July comes up quite quickly and affiliate listings are again being done and many clubs have wrong presidents' names listed which does not make for happy presidents and this we do not intentionally do. Maybe the lists were sent to the Editor and thus did not reach me. Send them to the Affiliate Chairman.

This column is my farewell to all of you. I have resigned and will no longer be your Affiliate Chairman. Mrs. Wayne Schroeder, 1739 N. 74th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635 is the new Affiliate Chairman. She is a very capable and understanding person. Please cooperate with her requests as you did with mine. This period of transition may slow up progress a little but please be patient and all will be taken care of as soon as possible.

I will miss all the great friends I have made and hope I will be seeing you at convention times in the future. Remembering all of you always.

Sincerely,
Helen Freie

SEVEN NEW AFFILIATES

This month there are seven new Affiliates we are welcoming into affiliation.

Tidewater AVS, George E. Wilson, 2433 Hemlock St., Norfolk, VA 23513

The Golden Circle AVC, Mrs. E. G. Brown, 45 S. Valley Rd., Palmyerdale, AL 35123

African Violet Society of Grays Harbor, Mrs. Beverly Cornell, 6116 Kavjula Rd., Aberdeen, WA 98520

Tustana A V S, Cheridah L. Lewis, 9841 Brentwood Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Ruston A V S, Mrs. George A. Davidson, Rt. 1 Box 317, Ruston, LA 71270

Green Bay Area A V S, Pat Robinson, 1641 Bruce Lane, Green Bay, WI 54303

Mile-Hi North A V S, Susan Verspohl, 10373 Sperry St., Northglenn, CO 80234

Greetings from your New Chairman

Working for the African Violet Society of America has always been a privilege and a challenge for me. Through the years I have not only enjoyed the many friendships I have made but I look forward to the mail and hope I may be able to help members with whom I share the joy of the African violet hobby.

Certainly there are many facets of this new job that will be hard work for a while, but I will try to learn the procedures as rapidly as possible to give the very best service to the society. Perhaps there will be mistakes of commission and of omission but with your patience and understanding we can work together to make the AVSA even better in its service to its members.

Please feel free to write if you have questions or if you have not received a reply to your requests. The transition of this chairmanship from California to Illinois has entailed cross country mailing which of course will delay your answers. Please be patient and understanding for soon everything should be running smoothly once again.

Mildred E. Schroeder

Affiliate Chairman

Root Rot And Diseases

Edd Stretch Smith
4136 Flora Place
St. Louis, MO 63110

Three groups of pathogens, pythium and phytophthora; fusarium; and rhizoctonia, cause most common root diseases of container grown plants, according to Dr. Harvey A. J. Hoitink, Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center, Wooster.

Experiments have shown these pathogens can be controlled, by substituting composted hardwood bark for peat moss in the potting medium.

In test nursery situations where half the plants were potted in a medium containing peat moss and the other half in a medium containing composted bark, the diseases were common where peat moss was used, while those in composted hardwood bark were free of root-rotting organisms.

Propagation Of African Violet Flower Petals

Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt*

(ED. NOTE: This is the third of three articles on "Tissue Culturing African Violets" by Peter C. Bilkey and A. C. Hildebrandt. Research was supported by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and by Hatch Project No. 981. The senior author acknowledges with special thanks scholarship support from The Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs and encouragement from Mrs. William Wall in this research).

Tissue culturing is now enabling African violets to be propagated from flower petals. Those delicate colorful blossoms for which all violets are grown, have the tremendous potential of sprouting millions of plants. The largest of greenhouses could be filled to capacity with violets propagated from one flower petal.

Tissue culturing African violet flower petals can offer another advantage besides mass propagation. If ever a mutation in a flower where a yellow stripe in a petal occurs, the potential of getting a whole plant with all yellow flowers from the mutated area is now possible. If this petal mutation occurred in the past, it was lost forever, since conventional methods of propagating violets could not continue the mutation. Tissue culturing sprouts a whole plant that genetically has the mutation in every cell.

The procedure for tissue culturing African violet flower petals is very similar to tissue culturing leaf petiole cross-sections described in article #2 in the March Magazine. The same artificial culture media containing water, sugar, agar, fertilizers, trace elements, vitamins and various hormones is used. In a transfer chamber under aseptic conditions, the African violet blossoms are sterilized using the



Figure 1. Close up of plants sprouting from an African violet flower petal, age—10 weeks.



Figure 2. Same cultured flower petal growing on media in 6 oz. prescription bottle.

same procedure as for leaf tissue. After being rinsed with sterile distilled water, the blossom petals are removed and placed on the culture media.

In a few days changes can be seen. The flower petals enlarge, lose most of their attractive color, and turn green. Cells, especially where the petal was removed from the blossom, divide rapidly. After about 3 weeks the cultured petal triples in size, and a large mass of cells (callus) can be seen. This callus begins to sprout plantlets when it is divided and transferred to fresh culture medium high in cytokinins. (Fig. 1 and 2). Cytokinins are hormones that promote rapid cell division and differentiation of callus cells into plantlets. The number of plantlets produced depends upon how often the callus is divided and the concentration of cytokinins in the culture media. The number of plantlets produced from one flower petal can be unlimited. When the plantlets are about 2 inches

*Peter C. Bilkey — Graduate Student, Department of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

A. C. Hildebrandt — Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

high, they are removed from the bottles, divided and transplanted into sterile African violet soil, and are ready to bloom in a few weeks.

A short while ago propagation of African violets from flower petals would have been impossible. With the way that science progresses further technical improvements in tissue culture may be anticipated.

(REFERENCES were listed in the first article, "African Violets and Tissue Culturing", appearing in the January 1977 African Violet Magazine.)

CROSS YOUR I's . . . and DOT YOUR T's . . .

Mrs. W. F. Anderson
360 Tulip Drive
St. Louis, MO 63119

For this column, we are indebted to Frances Batcheller and Estelle Crane for sharing their research to help others pronounce the botanical names of African violets and other gesneriads.

The pronunciation of botanical words does not have an absolute, universal standard. There is some disagreement even among the experts.

In the book *Botanical Latin*, Sir William Stern states: "Botanical Latin is essentially a written language, but the scientific names of plants often occur in speech. How they are pronounced really matters little provided they sound pleasant and are understood by all concerned."

Liberty Hyde Bailey in *How Plants Get Their Names* says: "All words are beautiful when properly used and correctly pronounced. For the most part, these binomials are not difficult in speech. Of course practice is required to speak any vocabulary well."

Roland Wilbur Brown, author of *The Composition of Scientific Words* states: "The purpose of pronunciation is not to be sonorous but to be understood . . . clarity may be promoted by enunciating the simple components of technical words so that they will be heard as distinct, etymological entities."

There are two main principles involved in pronunciation. First is accentuation which is finding the stressed or accented syllable. The second is vowel quality — whether the sound is short or long. The pronunciation of long vowels varies with the speaker's preference. In New York, it may be Americayna — in Boston, Americahna.

If a word has two syllables, accent the first

syllable — bel-la. If a word has several syllables, the stress is generally on the next to last syllable when the vowel is long — dip-lo-trich (trike)-a. If the vowel is short, the stress is generally on the third from the last syllable as hir-sutis-simus.

Most consonants are pronounced as in English. The letter c causes many difficulties. The usual rule is that it is pronounced as k before a, o and u — c(k)onfusa, obc(k)onic(k)us, orbic(k)ularis, inc(k)onspic(k)ua. Before e, i and y, the sound is a s dulc(s)is, diffic(s)ilis, c(s)yanandrus. Double c follows the rules that the first is k, the second depends on the following vowel as coc(k)c(s)inea. Ch is usually pronounced as k — pulch(k)ella. G may have the sound of g or j, depending on the speaker's preference as g(g)esneriad or g(j)esneriad.

Derivatives from proper names are usually pronounced as nearly as possible to the original language. An example *Saintpaulia grotei* has been named for the man who found it, Mr. Grote, or *S. tongwensis*, named for the geographical location, Mt. Tongwe in Africa.

Harold E. Moore, Jr. in *African Violets, Gloxinias and their relatives* says: "Common names for gesneriads are few. We must rely largely on technical names of Latin or Greek derivation." In the appendix he devotes a section to pronunciation and meanings of names.

As you become acquainted with more and more of these plants, don't approach the name calling it a jawbreaker and search for a common name. It's fun to find the meaning of the name and pronunciation becomes easier with practice.

Pesticide Problems

A member from Minnesota who thought she had Pritchard (soil) mealy bug, but later found that the pest was springtails, treated all her plants, plantlets and leaf cuttings with a drench of 2 tablespoons of Isotox to a gallon of water with disastrous results. Roots and centers were burned and she lost her entire collection of 125 violets.

She wrote "I learned the hard way. Don't believe everything you read or hear no matter who it's from and only do a few violets at a time when trying something new. Because of my husband's help and encouragement and help from a very dear violet friend I have started a new violet collection."

(Editor's Note: There are several different Isotox formulas. The Isotox Systemic has been used successfully by many members.)

Plant Sprouts On Backside of Leaf

Maradell Bird
Post Box 256
Lewistown, MT 59457

Anne Tinari said in the January '77 issue of the African Violet Magazine: "If you had the right temperature, atmosphere, etc, I believe you could be successful rooting any part of an African violet."

Now I have proof of it!

My plant, 'Pom Pom Delight' had formed several crowns and was quite crowded. It was blooming so beautifully I hated to disturb it, but finally I re-potted, and in so doing several leaves were broken off. I was going to throw them away, but decided to pot them. One leaf was broken and had a hole in it but I potted it anyway.

I put them in a small plastic pot, wicked with a bit of nylon from old stockings, put a few small stones in the bottom of a styrofoam coffee cup, added water to cover the stones, dropped in the small pot with the leaves, and covered the whole thing with a small plastic baggie, and put them under the lights. About every week or ten days I

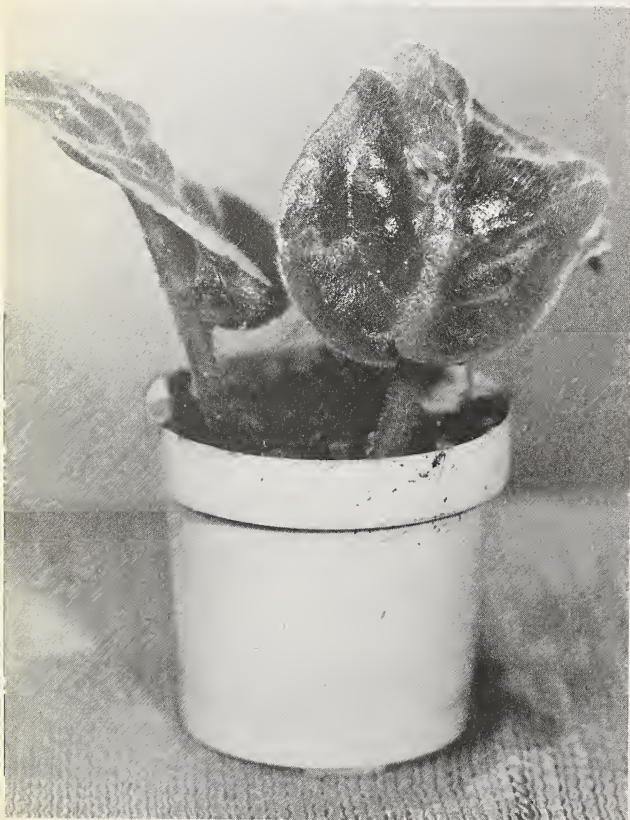


Photo No. 1



Photo No. 2

made sure there was enough water in the cup to make the wick effective.

In about five weeks I noticed that a tiny plant had sprouted on the under side of the leaf that had been broken! Photo No. 1 shows the front side of the leaf with the hole in it. Photo No. 2 shows the tiny plant growing on the back side of the leaf at the site of the break.

I am just a beginner in this African violet craze. There have been violets in my family for 40 years, but I only got really serious about them when I retired about two and one-half years ago. I am proud to say that my collection includes 1 miniature, three trailers, and about 100 other plants, comprising 32 varieties. I find I am being called upon more and more to bring centerpieces, and table decorations for the social function I attend. Of course, I am so proud to bring my violets.

REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

The following registrations have been received during the period from November 30, through February 28, 1977.

ROYAL DREAM (3068) VW-E 5 dfs 12/2/76
William G. Hartley, 315 Webster St., Bel Air, MD 21014

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, USA (3069) L-OX 35 df S 12/10/76

ABOUT FACE (3070) D-ROW-E 23 df S 12/10/76

Mrs. P. W. Kiesling, 475 Madison St., Denver, CO 80206

HENRIETTA WILSON (3071) L-B 2 d S 12/10/76

L. F. Wilson, 114 So. 9th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715

BLUE BENDER (3072) D-BW-E 2 s-d L 12/30/76

BOMBAY RED (3073) RV-E 2 d L 12/30/76

CLOUD BANK (3074) W 2 d L 12/30/76

CORPUS CHRISTI (3075) L-PX 2 s-dc L 12/30/76

DONNA (3076) OXV 2 d L 12/30/76

FALBA (3077) W 2 d L 12/30/76

KIRA (3078) OV 23 d L 12/30/76

MIMI (3079) W 2 d L 12/30/76

SANDRA (3080) PXW&G-E 2 d L 12/30/76

SARA LYNNE (3081) RW-E 2 d L 12/30/76

TEXAS CHARMER (3082) OXV&W-E 2 s-d L 12/30/76

TEXAS WILDFIRE (3083) RW-E 2 d L 12/30/76

TRUFFLES (3084) OW-E 2 d L 12/30/76

UTZ MONIQUE (3085) D-PW-E 2 d L 12/30/76

UTZ TIFFANY (3086) PW-E 23 d L 12/30/76
Howard Utz, 10017 Sahara, San Antonio, TX 78216

SIR HILL (3087) VO 358 s L 2/1/77
Arthur Hill, 1468 Ponderosa, Fullerton, CA 92635

PLUM MARALADE (3088) RX 259 d L 2/1/77

CANTON STAR (3089) D-B 259 sc S 2/1/77

PARMA ZIP (3090) D-B 259 d L 2/1/77

PARAGON (3091) L-PD-P-E 25 df S 2/1/77

SHEER BEAUTY (3092) L-PG-E 35 df L 2/1/77

MIDNIGHT KISS (3093) OV-E 259 d L 2/1/77
Mrs. C. S. Hawley, 2432 Nottingham Rd., Columbus, OH 43221

FREDETTE'S SUGAR BLUES (3094) BW-E 37 s-d L 2/22/77

Irene Fredette, 972 Grassy Hill Rd., Orange, CT

GENE'S PRIDE (3095) M-D-BW-E 59 S 2/22/77

Irene Reinhold, 5823 West Park Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110

BLUE MARINER (3096) L-B 59 df S 2/25/77

CANDY LOVE (3097) L-PW-E 59 s-d S 2/25/77

DIRTY FACE (3098) L-PG 59 s-d S 2/25/77

FESTIVE RED (3099) RW-E 35 s-d S 2/25/77

FRILLY LACE (3100) OX 5 df S 2/25/77

JWELED STAR (3101) RO-E 3 s S 2/25/77

IRISH DUDE (3102) WOG-E 5 df L 2/25/77

LAVENDER JEWEL (3103) O 39 s-d S 2/25/77

MIDNIGHT MADNESS (3104) V 5 df S 2/25/77

PEACH LACE (3105) PG-E 3 d S 2/25/77

PINK DYNAMO (3106) PX 3 d S 2/25/77

RING TWICE (3107) L-RX 2 sc S 2/25/77

SAILOR'S DREAM (3108) L-B 59 d L 2/25/77

SHAYNA (3109) V 5 df S 2/25/77

SWINGIN PINK (3110) D-P 2 d S 2/25/77

TOMMIE'S SON (3111) WB 79 d L 2/25/77

TWILIGHT ANGEL (3112) VW-E 59 s-d L 2/25/77

Kolb's Greenhouses, 725 Belvidere Rd., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

BICENTENNIAL ROSE (3113) D-PX 1589 d S 2/26/77

STORM WARNING (3114) D-BW-E 239 sc S
2/26/77

Mrs. P. W. Kiesling, 475 Madison St., Denver,
CO 80206

RESERVATIONS

The following reservations have been received
during the same period as above.

NANA'S LOVE 2/11/77 Mrs. Walter Bruce,
3459 Villa Ave., Shreveport, LA 71107

THE MUSCIAN * THE MUSCIAN'S WIFE *
THE MUSCIAN'S SONG 2/22/77 Rev. L. E. Col-
lins, 1333 Riverside, Waco, TX 76706

DEVIL'S PINK * TOMMY'S BROTHER
1/26/77 Kolb's GH, 725 Belvidere Rd., Phillips-
burg, NJ 08865

BOY BLUE * MACY ANN 11/19/76 Mrs. J. G.

Barnhill, 1108 12th Ave., Midfield AL 35228

RENEWALS AND RELEASES

Renew *THERESSA CAROL* and *CINDEREL-
LA* The Flower Pot, Stevens St., Albert Lee, MN
56007

Release *COBRA AND EASTER BUNNY*

CORRECTION

In the March Magazine *SHARPR* should have
been *SHAYNA*

The above registration *PLUM MARMALADE*
was formerly released under the name *PLUM
PRETTY*

Please send your orders for the Master Variety
List 2 and 3 to The Knoxville Office.

Send self addressed stamped envelope for any
reply.

Columnnea Multiflora

Mrs. Hugh F. Eyerdorn
Granger Gardens
Medina, OH 44256

Numerous years back we attended a Gloxinia
Society Convention at Ithaca, NY. There we be-
came familiar with many plants which we did not
know existed. We were very much impressed by
some of them and decided to grow some for our
trade. When the public had not become aware of
them, and were not interested when we showed
them, we dumped most things, with the exception
of a few *Columnneas* and *Hypocertas*.

We have done nothing towards hybridizing any-
thing but the *Columnneas*. By making numerous
crosses and coming up with some interesting plants
Hugh kept a few select ones. Of these, there are
two. They are *Columnnea* 'Multiflora' and *Column-
nea* 'Chocolate Soldier'. We have sold many, many
of both. 'Multiflora' will win again and again in
shows because it is an easy one to propagate and
grow. It has large blooms and is almost always in
bloom. The thing Hugh tried to develop in this
crossing was a sturdy, well proportioned amount
of foliage of good substance with good sized
blooms held well upright from the stem, and not a
hidden bloom with weak foliage. He feels he has a
most desirable one in this one.

We do not grow enough *Gesneriads* to put on
our price list because our violet trade in the past

several years has been so heavy and we use all the
space we can for them. What *Columnneas* we do
grow are purchased here at the greenhouses by
either the retail trade or the area wholesale dealers
who drive in and pick them up. Therefore we do
not list them.

Columnnea 'Chocolate Soldier' is a most attrac-
tive plant because of its bronze chocolate color
with a waxy cast to the foliage. We feel it is a good
one from the standpoint of an attractive hanging
basket plant. It is getting more popular all the
time, and is also easy to propagate.

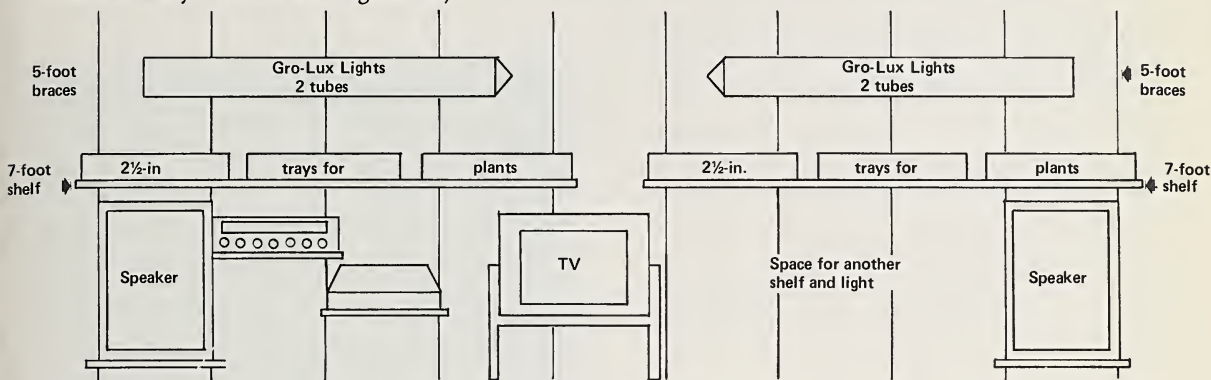
Both plants are heavy feeders and must have
fertilizer regularly. They should be fed every other
time you water to get the best performance.
'Chocolate Soldier' is not the constant bloomer
that 'Multiflora' is, but it does bloom heavily at
certain times of the year as they reach maturity.

Columnnea 'Calypso' is the third one we are
working with. It is also an ever bloomer. The foli-
age is dark olive red with large red upright blooms
with a yellow throat and single red tongue. This
one we are going into heavier production than we
have been. It has proven itself different enough to
be another variety than the above two. Either
20-20-20 or 15-30-15 fertilizer can be used.

We have no intention of changing the name of
'Multiflora' for any reason, even though we have
been told numerous times that it would not be
recognized as a name for the plant by the powers
that be!

Plant Stands Constructed To Meet Needs of Growers

(ED. NOTE: This is the second of several articles dealing with plant stands which have been constructed by African violet growers).



Here's where Bernadette Williams grows her violets.

Bernadette Williams, 285 Dandridge Drive, Barnhart, MO 63012 certainly displayed her ingenuity when she was faced with the need of taking care of her African violets.

But let her tell her story:

"In our living room we have a wall 15-foot wide, which we turned into a home for my African violets along with a place to put our portable television and component stereo equipment.

"The braces, which were to support the shelves, were placed on 16-inch center studs across the width of the wall. The cantilever brackets were

then positioned up or down on the braces depending on where we wanted the shelves. The shelves were made of particle board, then stained a dark brown. The shelves measure 7 feet long and 16 inches wide. The two Gro-Lux lights in each fixture are 48 inches long with two 40-watt tubes placed on brackets so that they can be raised or lowered depending on their use.

"My collection of violets is small since I have not been involved that long with violets, but I'm sure it will grow. I certainly enjoy reading the African Violet Magazine."

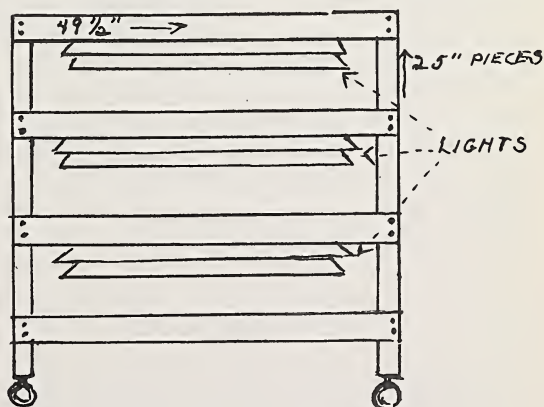
If I Can Build One, You Can, Too!

Carol Ann Kostulias
461 Wellington Road
Mineola, NY 11501

I know if I can build a plant stand, you can, too! I recently completed my last one. Practically all you need is a screw driver and perhaps a drill.

For a single stand, I had 8 pieces of 49½ inch common pine cut by the lumber yard, 8 pieces of 25 inch common pine - both of these are 3½ inch by ¾ inch wood. Then you need 4 pieces of 60 inch 1x1's and a 4x8 piece of masonite cut in ¼'s. This will give you three shelves for plants, and a top for storing things such as your pots and fertilizers etc. Of course you need three 48-inch fluorescent rapid start fixtures (also easily wired). If you want to double the size of this stand the 49½ inch

STORAGE SHELF
ON TOP



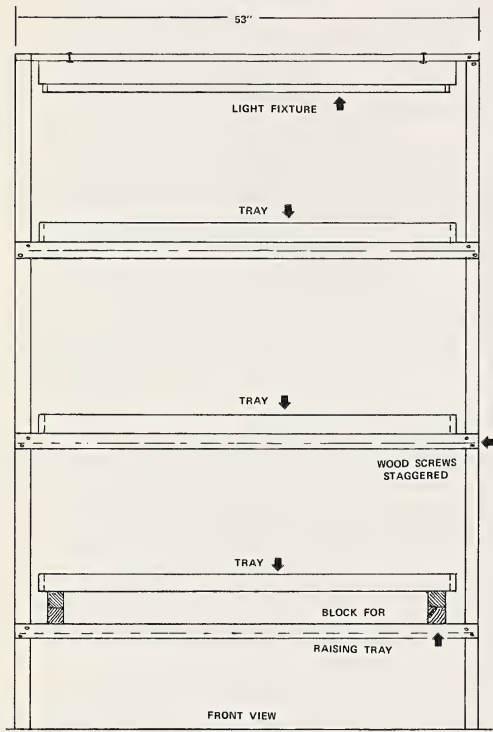
Carol Kostulias Built This.

wood is replaced by 98 inch wood, and you need two extra 1x1's for the center. Does all this make sense? Also needed are 64 wood screws (for the

single stand). I put two in each corner to brace it real well.

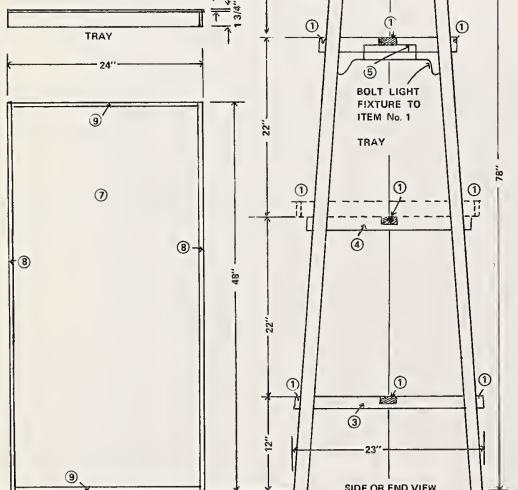
My opinion is that a 48-inch fixture will only light a 24x48 inch area.

Sketches and Finished Product

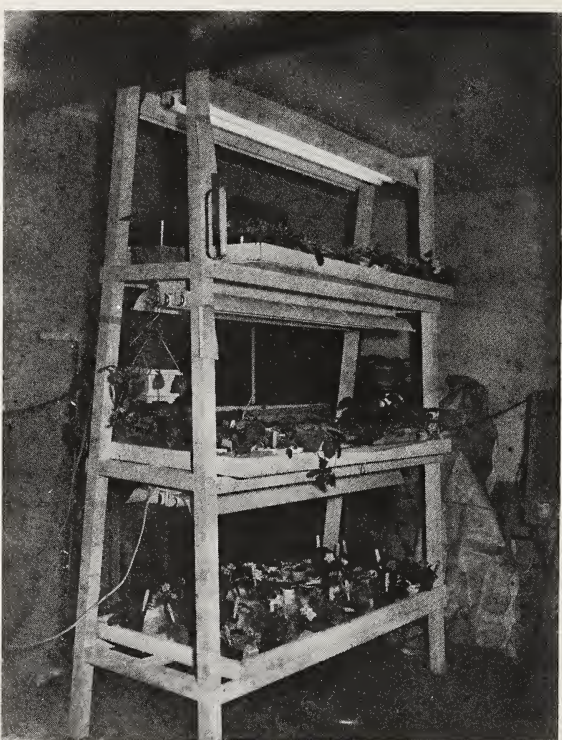


Front View

- ① 1" x 2" x 53" Lg. 10 Reqd.
- ② 2" x 2" x 78" Lg. 4 Reqd.
- ③ 2" x 2" x 19" Lg. 2 Reqd.
- ④ 2" x 2" x 15 1/2" Lg. 2 Reqd.
- ⑤ 2" x 2" x 12" Lg. 2 Reqd.
- ⑥ 2" x 2" x 9" Lg. 2 Reqd.
- ⑦ 1/8" x 2" x 4' Lg. Peg Board 3 Reqd.
- ⑧ 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 48" Lg. 6 Reqd.
- ⑨ 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 23" Lg. 6 Reqd.



Side or End View



Finished Product

Norman Steinke, 5220 S. Nicolet Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151 has offered some sketches of a plant stand he built and says that dimensions may vary to suit the lumber you may have on hand, or if you purchase new lumber, stock sizes are given in the bill of material.

Here is his description of his stand:

"The trays are 2 x 4 ft., the bottom is peg board, so that the air can circulate up thru if plants and pots are on saucers. Otherwise for small plants I put a 4 mil. sheet of plastic in the tray which makes it water tight. The trays are not fastened to the frame. This enables you to raise them by blocking up or down.

"Two feet wide is about the maximum in width, when you can work from one side only. Also your light spread will be about maximum at 12" from plants.

"The light fixtures are standard 4 foot. In Milwaukee area (if bought on sale) are \$9.88 to \$11.88 at Kohl's, K-Mart, Sears and Target. Watch for sales. Tubes supplied with light fixtures are not

the grow type.

"The end A frames are glued and nailed together while the cross pieces, the length are fastened with wood screws so that it can be disassembled if desired.

"The whole assembly painted white makes it easy to keep clean.

"The height will depend on your ceiling height. Dimensions given are for 7-ft. ceilings. The bottom shelf was kept 12" off the floor to make it easy to clean and work under.

"I keep my large plants on the bottom shelf, medium on the middle and the small on the top, because of the difference in temperature from floor to ceiling.

"For a short person, a foot stool is needed to work on the top shelf."

Shelves in Windows

Plant stands and lighted stands are fine if you have the floor space, writes Katherine F. Lang, 118 Craig Road, Rochester, NY 14616, but my home is too small for such stands.

So my husband constructed me some shelves across my windows in the dining room. This not only saves space in the home but also makes my dining room very attractive.

This probably isn't a new idea but it does make for beauty and openness in my dining room windows.

"SHAPE UP OR SHIP OUT"

*Mrs. Sylvia Fellows
4718 Maychelle Drive
Anaheim, CA 92807*

My goodness, that sounds like a Drill Sergeant, doesn't it? That's always been my policy with my violets, and when I came back from that gorgeous national convention in Atlanta, the refrain was shouted loud and long!

Violets have been an inseparable part of my life since about 1963, when I was in high school. You see, to begin with, I watched my mother mistreat two poor, anonymous plants and couldn't stand it. How they ever survived in that dark room, I'll never know! I retrieved them and the kitchen "breakfast nook" made a great new home. Of course, you know, there weren't two plants for long, not the way the leaves root so easily. Soon the plants all had to hang on by their very fingernails to stay on the sill. Oh yes, the original two had also been joined by three leaves (and their subsequent offspring) gained at a show (3 for \$1). As I recall, two of them were 'Irresistible' and 'Peak O' Pink'. I still have a plant of 'Irresistible'.

Then I went off to college. My desk became both the bane and the glory of the dormitory maids' existence. What with the cookie pan with Sponge Rok (for humidity) and the fluorescent light, very little cleaning — or studying — went on at that desk. The maids (and the housemother) loved those plants almost as much as I did. And, every now and then, a plant went out as a bridal shower gift. Even so, it was "hang on for dear life" to the desk top. Every plant grew and bloomed so well on my scholastic regimen: the light went on at 6 a.m. when I got up to go practice harp, and

stayed on until 11 p.m., when I collapsed into bed. The intellectual environment seemed to be very stimulating to blooms of all types.

We all made it through the four years — with a diploma and one or two blue ribbons from some shows in the local Violet Society too — and moved home to an apartment.

Unfortunately, even the walls molded in that apartment. So all my pretties had some problems.

I started all over again (shape up or ship out — they shipped out) after a year of mold. I married my Air Force sweetheart and moved to northern California, trays, lights and all. Oh boy, I almost had to stand back as all the new leaves and little plants "took off." They must have liked having my flute students playing and my own flute and harp practicing going on in the same room. Good vibes, as we used to say.

And now, we live in southern California, in a house with enough rooms to have one for the harping and one for the violets. I wonder if they miss the close proximity to all that music? It still comes through the doors and down the hall . . . I'll have to ask, when I can get a word in edgewise between the frantic blooming. (P.S. They shaped up!)

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

Question Box



By Anne Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006

Q. Dear Anne: I have recently moved to Oklahoma and it is very dusty in our house to the point that I need to dust almost every day. Problem is my violets are getting covered. I heard they could be given a shower. If this is true could you advise me on the best way of doing this, or tell me how I can safely remove the dust?

A. Dusting is not near as much fun as growing African violets. However, violets can be sprayed to be kept free of dust. There are a few precautions I would advise. First, never spray plants while they are in the bright light or sunshine as it will surely spot the leaves. Water that varies more than 10 degrees in temperature can cause yellow marks to appear on the leaves and is usually due to temperature change. Thus, I would caution you to use tepid water or comfortably warm water and do the plant spraying out of sun and light with a fine mist sprayer.

If done properly and with caution plants should thrive and grow beautifully. When foliage is full of dust and particles, it prohibits the tiny pores in the foliage to function properly and the whole plant can look old and unsightly.

Q. I have so much trouble with my leaf cuttings rooting. Can you tell me of a good rooting powder and a soil for rooting leaves?

A. Over many years of propagating and growing African violets we have found Proliferol Powder to be a very suitable hormone to dip the end of the leaf cutting before placing in to root. We find more uniform growth results.

The rooting medium we find best is half sand and half vermiculite. Do not keep this medium too wet, just slightly moist and sufficient good light and proper air circulation for good growth.

Q. I've transplanted two of my plants into ceramic pots, about the same size as the plants, without drainage. I put charcoal in the bottom in the bottom for drainage. I'm concerned. Will the roots get enough air? Do you think I should transplant them again?

A. I would leave plants in present pots since they are doing well. You probably are watering

them properly and drainage is adequate. The charcoal will permit proper air circulation provided plants are not overwatered.

Q. Could you please tell me why the leaves are falling off my *Aeschynanthus Obconicus* vine? It doesn't seem to be growing very much and the plant is almost bare of leaves. It was in full flower when I purchased it but never flowered since. I keep it protected from excessive light.

A. This plant commonly known as the Lipstick Vine is a fascinating one. The original species come from warm tropical regions with high humidity, thus you may have been protecting it too much. They prefer lots of light, high humidity and in a container that is not too large but keeps the root area slightly pot bound. Temperature should never be below 65 degrees. If they grow long and leggy it may be wise to cut back some of the growth and try to reroot some of the stems. They prefer a slightly acid soil about the same as the African violets, keep slightly moist, but never soggy. Feeding plants constantly with a well-balanced diluted fertilizer can also help to produce bloom.

Q. It seems like I have inherited a diseased plant but didn't realize it until it had spread to several trays. It appears to be some type of fungus with patches of white powdery stuff on the leaves and flower stems, especially under the flowers. What would you suggest?

A. Your problem sounds like the old familiar botrytis that settles on flower stalks of plants, especially if they are overcrowded and overwatered and sufficient air circulation is lacking.

First, it is wise to take diseased plants away from others as tiny spores will circulate in the air and spread to plants around them. Spores of this disease can be carried on your hands to others, so do be careful in handling. Try to keep plants a little on the dry side and maintain a temperature of over 65 degrees.

Spraying the plants with Mildex about 2/3 teaspoon to one gallon of water can help eradicate your problem and follow up after seven days for several applications of 50% Benomyl 1/4 teaspoon to 1 pint to water, mist or spray plants and soil.

Q. Dear Anne: I have a collection of miniature African violets and would like to include *S. pusilla*. I can't find it anywhere. Could you head me in the right direction? Also would you consider *S. magungensis minima* a miniature?

A. Regarding the *S. pusilla*, I don't know where it would be available. The only information I could uncover is its description in Ruth Carey's Handbook for Judges on page 37. It relates the following: It is the smallest of the species and found to be distinct from *S. goetzeana*, but partly due to their growing together and having bi-color flowers of the same color, a careful study showed it to be distinct." She further claims at present it is missing. The last known information was that it was present in Berlin but probably lost during the bombings.

If you will note in the same book the description of *S. magungensis* var. *minima*. It is a small edition of *S. magungensis*. At this time I have no idea who would have it available.

Since you are particularly interested in the African violet miniatures I believe you will see in the AVSA magazine that a new miniature and semi-miniature list has been recently published and is now available. For further information on the miniatures, may I suggest you write Mrs. Sidney Bogin, 39 Boyd Street, Long Beach, NY 11561. She is the miniature plant chairman and can give you better assistance on this. She would be up to date on this matter.

Q. I have recently acquired a great set-up with artificial lights and am delighted with this type of growing, but I don't understand why most of the books recommend 12 to 14 hours of day light. Would not the benefit be greater to keep them on constantly?

A. Photoperiod or the light and the dark periods each day for plant growth is very important. It affects both flowering and growth, although some plants can grow under continuous light, most flowering plants prefer a dark period each day for normal growth and process and to trigger flowering.

Q. I have discovered two nice seed pods on one of my African violets. How will I know when they are ready to pick and plant? What soil is best to plant the seed in?

A. It is best to let your seed pod attached to the plant until they show signs of shriveling or turning brown. Keep plants holding seed pods slightly dry and be certain proper air circulation exists so that the pedicels holding the seed pods do not soften. After removal of the seed pods, which can vary from 6 weeks to 6 months, you can split the

shriveled pods open very carefully and gather the seed which is as fine as pepper. Use a white paper or material to empty your seed capsule thus not losing the very fine seed or you can sow it directly on your prepared medium.

Seed can be sown in any sterile medium. I prefer a mixture of half sand and half vermiculite. However, many prefer milled sphagnum moss or perlite and moss.

Q. I suspect that some of my African violets have anthracnose but I have not been able to find anything written on violets having this. (Perhaps this has been covered in back issues of the AVSA magazine but I have received only a few editions.) Some of the leaves have small sunken spots and others have tiny pin-holes. Can you suggest a fungicide and precautions I can take to prevent the others from getting this?

A. Anthracnose refers to certain plant diseases typically producing ulcer-like lesions, can be caused by certain species of fungi. Thus you are correct in stating you can find no literature on this. Very little has been scientifically done at the laboratory level on virus diseases of African violets, possibly because it is not at all a common ailment as it is on various other plants.

Your ailment can be due to thrip or an infestation of springtails, either can cause damage and partially resemble some of your symptoms. Cygon 2E or Malathion can be used to help eradicate these pests. Use cautiously as per directions on container with follow up treatment for best protection.

Q. My violets were accidentally subjected to cold when heat went off in the greenhouse. It was only for a few hours and did not kill them. However, it did leave spots on many leaves. I moved them into a violet room under lights where the temperature is stable. What can I expect in the way of recovery? Should I continue feeding these plants? Also what causes relatively short stems and a tendency to hug the pot? I have trouble getting plants to grow flat and symmetrical.

A. Your treatment of these chilled plants was indeed sensible. I would suggest you remove any leaves that really deteriorate but do not defoliate them any more than necessary. They will look drab for a time, but with your knowledge and care you should be able to nurse them back.

Beware of disease which can hit severely when plants are at their weakest. I would suggest using any insecticide in their immediate area to ward off trouble, but do not spray the plants themselves until they have a few weeks of growth and are robust enough to handle it. Yes, I would continue

normal light feeding with a food in diluted strength.

Plant growth and form is usually due to the manner in which light falls on the plants. Keep lights 10" to 12" above the plants. If you have outside light influence plants will tend to grow toward the most light. Sometimes by simply removing plants a short distance in another direction you can change the leaf and growth pattern. Normally they grow especially well under lights kept on 12 to 14 hours a day with 8 hours of complete darkness.

Q. After using a new insecticide, highly recommended to me, I note great loss in my young plants. I carefully followed directions and don't see how this could happen.

A. Plant loss is always very frustrating. However, to the best of my knowledge materials concerning insecticides, fungicides and pesticides are used at the customer's own risk.

My suggestion is that a new material, no matter by whom or how highly recommended, should never be used on a great quantity of plants, but only on a few to observe what reaction takes place under one's own environment. Soil, water and any residue of material previously used can determine success or failure.

Q. Dear Anne: Since I am just starting with violets, do you think it is harmful for me to use insecticides in the same room where I have several birds? They are loose in the area at times where my violets are and often land on them.

A. I would not recommend using any pesticides or insecticides in the same room as your birds or where they might have access to plants after they are sprayed.

Q. Is it proper to water a strawberry jar by pouring water in the saucer and letting plants draw what they want?

A. A strawberry jar arrangement should always be watered from the top large opening, provided you placed a fine layer of sphagnum moss at each opening so the soil will not sift out. Thus the water will penetrate to the other openings, even when fed this is the proper procedure. Also with this type arrangement it is well to take it to the sink and give it a good spraying with warm or tepid water and let the leaves dry out of the sun and bright light.

TIMELY TIPS FOR SUMMER CARE . . .

1. Remember that moist soil combined with constant high temperatures and excessive humidity can create many fungus problems.

2. When constant rain persists for more than several days, cut down on watering, keeping plants only slightly moist to prevent mildew and botrytis.

3. Warm night air during the summer months will not harm plant growth but usually increase it.

4. If plants must be left under plastic while you vacation remember to remove all open blossoms that can drop on plant foliage or any spent leaves so plants are left in as trim a condition as possible, leaving them moist but not saturated. Don't provide any condition that will cause a breeding area for fungus growth.

5. Be sure to provide proper air circulation while you are gone so that stagnant air does not cause a series of problems for your return.

TIP: Dear Anne: The pH of St. Louis city water is between 9.0 and 10.0. My husband adjusts all of our water with phosphoric acid to an adjusted pH of 6.0 to 7.0 with the aid of a pH meter. He feels this is safer to use than nitric acid, and the plants benefit by the use of the phosphorous. I have been using this water some time and all of the plants are doing very well. I also omit the lime from our soilless mix.

CORRECTION:

Anne . . . I would like to cite a question in the January 1977 issue of AVS magazine "Question Box" section. The writer wished to know if it was necessary to fertilize plants in a soil mixture containing peat moss, vermiculite and perlite. You responded to do so, which I agree, but you added that peat moss, perlite and vermiculite contained no nutritive value. This is, in part, incorrect. Peat moss does contain about one percent nitrogen, and vermiculite does contain enough magnesium and potassium to supply most plants.

CORRECTION

On page 66 of the March 1977 Magazine, an error was made in the answer to the question in Anne Tinari's column: "Is it possible for a violet to convert to a different variety? Or does the type of light received make a difference in the color of blooms?"

The last line instead of less light, should have read: ". . . and it is common knowledge that variegated cultivars thrive best in very light, but cooler temperatures."

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

YOUR LIBRARY

*Harvey L. Stone
51 Peach Highlands
Marblehead, MA 01945*



This is your new Library Committee Chairman's first column in our wonderful AVSA Magazine. Now, I am personally experiencing the feelings other writers mention both in AVSA and other publications when deadlines require a column be written months ahead of time! I am writing this for appearance in the June Magazine right after the worst winter in our history. Many are saying this will be the winter to remember — I'd rather forget it — how about you? We've talked to a lot of florists, especially in the really hard hit areas such as Cincinnati to Michigan, who lost most or all of their violets and other plants because of a 'shortage' of Natural Gas. I hope you were all able to avoid the loss of any of your plants.

First, let's say "Thanks for a job well done" to Gene Garner who is retiring as Chairman in order to devote more time to her duties as our first vice president.

In reviewing some of the problem areas in our Library slide programs I find that although Clarice Bell, in the Knoxville Office, expends every effort to expedite the handling of the programs, some clubs are not reciprocating. Her clear, easy to understand instructions/requests as to the return or remailing of these programs are not always being followed. Just a few quick examples. One Club's programming was changed and they simply kept the slides until after their next monthly meeting before returning them. A program was mailed to another club for a scheduled meeting and not been returned nearly three weeks later. Another club which had reserved the program was disappointed! Since there was little time between a scheduled showing by one club and another by a second club Mrs. Bell mailed an address label for the second club and a note asking the first club to immediately mail the program directly to the second club. Nearly 2 1/2 weeks after their scheduled showing, the first club mailed the program, the note and the address label back to the Knoxville Office. Delays like this disappoint one and sometimes more than one club. Too often when the programs are checked on their receipt at Knoxville, one or more slides

are missing. Please, please check your trays and make sure no slide/s are left in them. Check each program for the proper sequence of numbered slides before wrapping them in heavy paper and returning them or remailing them as the case may be, via first class mail. The \$1.50 charge for postage and handling is no longer adequate and will be increased to \$3.00 effective July 1, 1977.

I think we have the best slide programs in the world, don't you? Won't you all please make the effort after ordering a program to return it promptly so as not to disappoint other clubs?

If an individual requests the program/s and they are to be shown at an African Violet Club meeting, please indicate the name of the Club in your request.

If all goes well, there will be one or two new slide programs from our St. Louis Convention available after July 1, 1977.

I hope every one of you said, "Have plants, will travel", and attended the AVSA's 31st Annual Convention in St. Louis. I know you have enjoyed every minute of it.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Gussie Briggs, 3201 Austin St., Corpus Christi, TX passed away February 7, 1977. Mrs. Briggs was the organizer of Corpus Christi African Violet Society and its first president. She was also instrumental in organizing Gulf Breeze African Violet Society and Sparkling City African Violet Society. Her death was a great loss to Corpus Christi African Violet Society for she was an active worker and loved violets.

DAYTON AFFILIATE IS ORGANIZING

Anyone in the Dayton, Ohio, area interested and willing to help organize a local affiliate, please contact Mrs. Robert M. (Neena) Montgomery, 510 Kenilworth Avenue, Dayton, OH 45405.

AVSA LIBRARY

REGULATIONS FOR USE OF AVSA LIBRARY MATERIAL

REQUEST FOR RESERVATION

Send to AVSA Library, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901. Reservations will be scheduled and confirmed by this office.

Slide programs and packets are available for use by AVSA members in good standing subject to Library regulations.

SLIDE PROGRAMS

1. Make checks payable to AVSA. A \$1.50 fee is payable with request for slide programs for individual members and AVSA Affiliate Organizations. Fee to non-members is \$5.00.

2. Make request for reservation three (3) months in advance of date desired for use with the following information:

Name and address of person to whom slides will be mailed.

State exact date when material will be used.

Substitutions for requested program may be necessary. Give second and third choice of date for specific program request.

Only one (1) slide program may be reserved for a meeting. Special requests will be filled when possible. When two or more programs are requested, such requests will be filled **ONLY** if there are no other requests for the program on the same date. Affiliate Organizations requests will receive priority over individual members requests in case of a duplication because more people will benefit from the use of the program.

3. Slide programs must be returned immediately after specified meeting date in order to meet schedules for others. Please carefully repack the box for mailing.

4. Library material must be returned postpaid to the Knoxville office by first class mail. (Return postage will be the same as when posted by Knoxville.)

PACKETS

1. Program packets (written material helpful in preparing programs) are available to individual AVSA members.

2. Yearbook Collection Packets are available only to AVSA Affiliate Organizations in good standing. Yearbook Packets A, B, C, each contain approximately fourteen books representing all sections of the country.

3. Requests for two or more packets will be filled unless there is a duplicate request for the same packet.

4. Packets are loaned for a period of one month.

5. Enclose the \$1.00 fee with request to AVSA Library, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901.

6. Library material must be returned postpaid to the Knoxville Office by first class mail (Return postage will be the same as when posted by Knoxville.)

SLIDE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

"A PORTRAIT OF VARIEGATED FOLIAGE" (75 slides) A look at one of the newer facets of violet growing-variegated foliage plants. Instructions on growing and a detailed description of plants in this category.

"AFRICAN VIOLETS IN ARTISTIC DESIGNS" (60 slides) A collection of arrangements and artistic plantings using a Madonna or other accessory to enhance the design or help express the mood or theme of a class. Most slides are blue ribbon winners from shows.

"ARRANGE YOUR AFRICAN VIOLETS" (59 slides) A workshop program with slides illustrating the Elements and Principles of Design and Scale of Points for judging arrangements.

"BEAUTY IS . . . THE AFRICAN VIOLET" (75 slides) Know the violet from its historical background, family, cousins, leaf patterns, blossom color, and uses in arrangements. An educational approach to the hobby.

"DESIGN FOR DOING" (62 slides) The most elementary fundamentals of arranging are featured in this program. It is especially designed for the beginner who wishes to learn to do arrangements for her own pleasure.

"FACETS OF VIOLET GROWING" (64 slides) A program presenting cultural information, pointers in potting, methods of detecting insects, including specimen African violet show plants.

"Best by Test" from LYNDON LYON



SAM

MYSTIC MOMENT



"FROM THE LAND OF SKY BLUE WATERS" (70 slides) Those new varieties presented by hybridizers at Minneapolis.

"FROM SEED TO SHOW PLANT" (49 slides) A pictorial history of one plant from seed to show.

"GATEWAY TO VIOLETS" New introductions 1977. Always a first from St. Louis. These are the new ones from the hybridizers at the St. Louis Convention, the Gateway City.

"GESNERIADS ON REVIEW" (72 slides) A collection of gesneriads slides from commercial displays and prize winning plants at shows. Many of the slides were taken at the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Convention shows.

"GROWING AND GROOMING A SHOW PLANT" (82 slides) A how-to-do-it program starting with the selection of the best leaf for propagation, showing the development and culture of a plant all the way to packing and OFF TO THE SHOW.

"KNOW YOUR FLOWER POWER" (36 slides) Testing your knowledge of African violets can be fun with this program. Everyone will enjoy these brain teasers with their multiple choice answers.

"LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF VIOLETS" (80 slides) From the cradle of liberty come the new patriots of the violet world. The new commercial introductions at the Boston convention.

"MULTIPLYING SAINTPAULIAS" (65 slides) This program covers propagation by leaf cutting, division, seeds, and grafting. Slides show how to produce and plant seeds to the development of a small potted plant.

"OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE" (80 slides) Our 1976 Bicentennial Show and Southern Hospitality at its best, are recorded in this slide program.

"POINTERS ON JUDGING" (60 slides) A workshop program for exhibitors and judges on judging specimen plants.

"SHOW OFF YOUR VIOLETS" (70 slides) A program showing many ways of using violets for home decoration, party favors, and table arrangements.

"STAR SPANGLED VIOLETS" (69 slides) From STAR Blossoms and all other shapes and shades, come our new commercial introductions, bursting with vigor and appeal the bicentennial year, 1976.

"TENDER LOVING CARE FOR MINIATURES" (70 slides) It is fun to work with plants that thrive on TLC. These slides will show you how to groom, grow, and show miniatures.

"THE AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT" (77 slides) Learn to identify the variety of leaf types of the violet, the diseases that affect the leaf, and the blossom colors and types with this program.

"THE GENUS SAINTPAULIA" (62 slides) A program of Saintpaulia species from Mrs. Glen Hudson's collection and species exhibited at shows. The program includes African violets from the first registrations to the newer varieties showing the advancements in hybridization.

"THE GREAT WHITE WAY" (80 slides) The highlights of the AVSA Convention in New York City were recorded in this slide program.

"THE MOD MINIATURES" (76 slides) The second program in a series on miniature African violets. You will enjoy seeing some "oldies" and some "mods" and this should help you bridge the generation gap in miniatures.

"THE PRIDE OF PENNSYLVANIA - TINARI'S GREENHOUSES" (69 slides) Presents an outstanding view of African violets grown commercially. Featured are Tinari's introductions old and new.

"THE TREND IS MINIATURE" (78 slides) A wealth of information on growing, hybridizing and identifying the miniature and semiminature.

"THEATRE OF SEASONS PRESENTS VIOLETS" (80 slides) From the northlands AVSA Convention Show in Minneapolis, we present a review of the highlights of that event.

"THIRD TIME AROUND" Enjoy the beauty of the best in the show from St. Louis' third big convention - 1977.

"VIOLET HITS ON BROADWAY" (70 slides) The glamor girls of the new varieties introduced at the New York City Convention.

"VIOLETS AND MORE VIOLETS" (79 slides) A basic lesson for beginners showing how to set leaves, separate baby leaves from the mother leaf and divide a multiple crown plant. Also includes suggestions on potting, repotting a large plant and ways to treat a necky plant.

"VIOLETS AND SPICE AND EVERYTHING NICE" (70 slides) Connecticut known for its nutmeg spice was the state in which these new varieties were introduced. From many hybridizers — their newest.

"VIOLETS BY LAND AND BY SEA" (80 slides) Our beacons of beauty from the AVSA Convention show in Boston 1975. A review of the highlights of that convention.

"VIOLETS IN THE NUTMEG STATE" (75 slides)

Violets galore marked this show in Connecticut, 1974. You will enjoy seeing this program.

"VIOLET TROUBLES" (63 slides) Pests, diseases and results of poor culture are discussed here. A good basic program.

"WICK WATERING" Pointers on growing wick watered African violets demonstrating wicks and reservoirs which are commercially available and adaptations of common household materials or 'throw aways'.

OTHER MATERIAL AVAILABLE

BY LAWS PACKET: Rene Edmundson, the Parliamentarian for the AVSA, has presented a simple set of bylaws to be used as a guide in writing bylaws for new clubs or updating outmoded constitutions.

INSTALLATION PACKETS: There are two packets with Installation ceremonies. Each packet contains different suggested installation ceremonies which can be adapted for a Violet Club. Two new ones are made just for Violet Clubs.

PROGRAM PLANNING PACKET: Suggestions to help a Program Committee plan the programs for a year of club activity.

SHOW SCHEDULES PACKET: Show schedules from 1975 and 1976 African violet shows from different sections of the country. Updated each year. Excellent for new ideas.

SOIL RECIPES AND HINTS ON GROWING PACKET: This packet contains a selection of soil recipes from AVSA members in different parts of the country. Also included are helpful hints in growing the violet.

YEARBOOK COLLECTION PACKETS: These packets contain approximately 14 or more yearbooks each. Each packet contains one of the top prize winners at the last AVSA Convention competition. New each year.

Affiliate 'appenings

(ED. NOTE: When sending in reports of shows, please group the plants if one person wins several. Please send in your writeups in following manner:)

Organization of the **NIGHT MAGIC AVS** has just been perfected in Tallahassee, FL with the election of Mrs. Henry C. Mills, Life Member and longtime AVSA member, as president. The night club was organized for African violet growers who work during the day and are not able to attend daytime club meetings. The new Night Magic AVS is affiliated with both AVSA and DAVS.

THE LAKES AND HILLS AVS sponsored a free clinic for the public at Mt. Dora, FL. The program was geared to persons interested in learning more of the care and culture of African violets but who were not interested in joining a Society. Although it was the coldest day of the winter in Florida, 68 persons braved the weather and attended the clinic.

Guests were welcomed by Mrs. Palmer Pigot, president, and a talk on the culture of African violets was

given by Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson, Life Judge and Judging School Teacher. A demonstration on the dividing of plants was presented by Mrs. Raymond V. Todd, chairman of the clinic, and one on "necking" plants and wicking by Mrs. M. B. Mansfield, AVSA judge.

The **UPPER PINELLAS AVS** of Largo, FL, held its 18th annual show, "Violets—Nature's Gift", with the following winners: Best in show, "Colorado Knight", first runner-up, "Delft Imperial", AVSA Award (Gold Rosette), "Rebecca", "Marta", "Forever White", best artistic arrangement (tri-color award), "Spring in the Woods", special award for violet educational table, Mrs. Russell Yawger; best under 12", "Pixie Blue", best miniature trailer, "Pixie Blue", best miniature arrangement (three inches), best in unusual container, "Crafty Farmer", Mrs. William Zane; best miniature, "Calico Kitten", Mrs. Cheryl Atkins; best dish garden, best shadow box, Mrs. Royal Bratton; best semiminature, "Bambino", Mrs. Elaine Kiphart; best semiminature trailer, "Trail Along", best novice, "Gigi", Mrs. Mary Glen Campbell; best gesneriad, "Streptocarpus Constant Nymph", Mrs. Karen Peters; sweepstakes award with 27 blue ribbons, special award for educational table, "Other Gesneriads", Mrs. Roy Raines; best standard trailer, "Violet Trail", Edward Hartley; best club project, "Red Flair", Mrs. Lloyd Randall; best terrarium, Mrs. Jack Williams.

Presidential Hybrids

Photos by Ron Nadeau of St. Louis, Missouri

With skillful help from two good assistants Ronn Nadeau hybridizes African violets and sells the seeds by mail. They grow some of the seeds themselves in order to test for percentage germination and to learn which crosses produce the best seedlings. In this way they hope to improve their seed production program.

They have found that most of the seedlings from any one cross are different from one another in bloom, color or foliage or size, etc. This is evident in picture 1 which shows two blooms from each of three new varieties from the cross 'Mars' x 'Miriam Steele'. 'Jimmy Carter' is the best new variety to come out of their hybridizing pro-

gram thus far, a very large semi-double star, rich red. Permission to use their names was granted by the Carters who said they were delighted.

Picture 2 is a composite of blooms from many different crosses. Among these are 'Moon Shadow', 'Jack of Hearts', 'Jimmy Carter', 'Time for Blue', 'Sargeant Pepper', 'Rosalyn Carter', 'Time for Pink', 'Beryl Childs', 'Earthsong', 'Redbirds', 'Afternoon Delight' and 'Lilith'.

Picture 3 shows just a few of the many bloom types produced from seeds of the cross 'Purple Crest' x 'Mars'. 'Rosalyn Carter', a vigorous plant with very distinctive blooms, was one of the results of this cross.

Three New Varieties From the Cross 'Mars' x 'Miriam Steele'.





Composite of Blooms of Many Different Crosses.

Blooms From the Seeds of the Cross 'Purple Crest' x 'Mars'.



A Way With Cameras

Edgar F. Varick
161 Orange Avenue
Milford, CT 06460

(Edgar F. Varick's talk was made at a workshop, "A Way With Cameras", moderated by Mrs. Marvin Garner, at the AVSA Convention in St. Louis, MO)

As most of you know my picture taking for AVSA is arrangements for the AVSA Library. I'd like to tell you of the equipment, films, different types of lenses and cameras used.

First, let me give you some idea of the equipment I use. The single lens reflex camera with a light meter reading through the lens; 2 flood lights with 250 watt bulbs. I find 250 watt bulbs, if left on the plants or arrangements while making the necessary adjustments of camera, lights, etc. won't wilt the plants, while larger bulbs, because of the extreme heat, if left on too long might cause slight damage. With the lights I sometimes use a reflector umbrella. I have it with me if needed. And, of course, let's not forget the old stand by, the tripod.

For arrangements for library use, I use Kodak High Speed Ektachrome ASA 125 for use with tungsten light 3200 k. This film is made for use with floodlights. With floodlights and through the lens meter reading in your camera, you can get a good idea of just what your finished slide is going to look like.

By the way, if you should be using this film with floods and find you have some shots left on the roll, you can use an 85-B filter for use either with flash or daylight to finish the roll.

Some are asking, "What are Ks?" K or Kelvins are units of measurements on the absolute temperature scale used to measure the color temperature of light sources. Manufacturers make film of different K's, such as 6000K - 5500-K - 3400K - 3200K. Each has a different effect on the finished picture or slide, when used under different light sources. 3200K for floodlights, 5500K used for daylight and both electronic and flash bulbs.

I also use Kodak Kodachrome ASA 64 and High speed Ektachrome Daylight ASA 160; sometimes ASA 25. Maybe this ASA is a little confusing to some, so let's try to explain the meaning.

ASA means American Standards Association. It denotes the speed system with which film manufacturers may rate their films in terms of its sensitivity of light. ASA 400 is twice as fast as ASA 200. The higher ASA the less amount of light needed. Kodak and other film manufacturers make

many different film speed. A few in the slide family are 25-64-125-160 etc. The Kodak Kodachrome Daylight ASA 25 is traditionally the film by which all others are compared. Extremely fine grain, good skin tones, and warm white. ASA 64 is a good film for most use, a bit grainier than ASA 25, but again most of us use ASA 160 daylight which gives a faster film which can be used both outdoors and indoors with flash, both electronic and bulbs. They come in 20-36 exposures 135 magazines. Yet at times I find it most difficult to tell the difference between 25-64-125-160 when projected on the screen. I like to use ASA 160 for shots of arrangements as well as plants when not taking for the library and using my electronic flash. This is also a good film to use for all over shots in showroom, banquet hall and for a general overall picture with or without flash indoors and out. By the way, you can use an 80-B filter with 25-64-160 with floodlights.

I find that by using the ASA 160 for allover use I can get a fairly good depth of field in my pictures and slides. DEPTH OF FIELD: The distance between the nearest point and the farthest point in the subject which can be brought to acceptably sharp focus on a common focal plane. In other words, if we were to focus our camera on the center of this room, the folks in back and in front will be in focus. To get this, we close down our lens opening, which is called the F stop, as small as possible, and setting our shutter speed to correspond to our meter reading. Some cameras must be set at 1/60 of a second shutter speed when using an electronic flash so then you have to work backwards. Shutter speed 1/60 opening or F stop.

LENS: In most of my picture taking, I use the lens on my camera which is 50 mm. This is good for arrangements and plants and general use. At times if I can't get up close due to some sort of interference I will then resort to either teleconverter lens or the regular telephoto lens. In either case it brings the picture up closer. My teleconverter changes my 50 mm to 100 mm as it is a 2x. My regular telephoto lens is a 135 mm, slightly stronger. Again, if I can't get the whole room or scene I will then use my wide angle lens, a 28 mm. Tele-

photo brings the background up close; wide angle is just what it means, covering a larger area.

There are different type of lenses. A 6 m is sometimes called a fish eye 18m-35m-50m is usually a standard on most cameras.

Then we get into the telephoto lens, 82m-100,-and 800m. On this you can see the clock's face and read the time. This gives you some idea how different type lenses work.

When we get into cameras, we could spend all day on that subject alone. Just let's touch briefly on some of the popular models.

Probably the largest and most complicated one is the view camera. Used by professionals in studios for portrait work. The camera uses either cut film or plates. You view your subject through

a ground glass back.

Then we have one called the "view finder." The early models had a very bad feature. Sometimes you didn't get what you saw through the view finder. This was called an error in parallax. New models have overcome most of this trouble.

Then we have the twin lens reflex. This is a good all-around camera. The parallax has been corrected except for real close up work.

Now we have the most popular model known as the single lens reflex. The light path passes through the lens and a series of mirrors and into the eye piece. You get what you see. Most of these cameras have a light meter through the lens.

Last, but not to be forgotten, the old Kodak Box Camera about 1889 made by George Eastman, the guy that started all this confusion.

Violets' Therapeutic Value Demonstrated

Don C. Wilson of Wilson Bros. Floral Co., Inc., Roachdale, Indiana, and vice president of Putnam County Mental Health Association has made good use of some of his seedling African violets that he cuts from his hybridizing program. Don has long realized the therapeutic value of growing live plants, particularly the African violet.

With the cooperation of De Pauw University students, who are volunteer Mental Health workers, Don donates several blooming seedling African violets to the mental institution (Central Hospital) in Indianapolis every month. A qualified instructor teaches groups of patients how to repot, water, etc.. The response has been fantastic and the value in aiding the rehabilitation of the patients is price-

less. This is another place where the African violet is playing an important part in making the world a better place to live.

A DePauw student, Jeanne Albrecht, speaking for the Mental Health Club at the University, told of a visit to the pre-selected ward: "There were about 10 patients who took great interest in wanting to put the plants in pots. Two patients finished the other five and placed them around the ward. One woman, who hadn't even wanted a plant or to take part thanked us profusely for coming and bringing the beautiful flowers." She expressed thanks to Don for the opportunity to take the plants to the hospital, saying, "It did a great deal for me personally to have made the 'plant therapy' visit."

Novel Containers For Your Violets

Joan Naismith

(Former Editor,

AVS of Australia's News and Views)

A lot of Australian members who know me, know I like to grow violets in novel containers. I have violets in shells, brandy balloons, glasses, cups and rocks. I enjoy showing the different ways our violets can be displayed.

The one question I am always asked is "How do you water in an undrained container?" Well, I watch the color of the soil. This tells me when the plant needs watering. It is all a matter of being careful. If you do by any chance over water, try placing a folded paper towel, or tissue on top of the soil to soak up the excess water.

Growing in undrained containers, you will find they may only need to be watered every second time, compared to your normal pots. Do try, as it's a lot of fun. Cups with broken handles or cracks can be lined with cooking foil trimmed to pot shape, cut a drainage hole fill with both soil and plant. When you need to water lift out the plant in its foil pot, drain on the sink and replace.

PERK IT UP!

If a plant needs perking up — try placing it in a plastic bag, leaving a tiny opening for ventilation. This acts as a greenhouse and you'll be surprised how quickly the plant will spruce up.

(Photo by Schroeder)



**Pink
Granada
by
Granger
Gardens**

Volcanic Rock Arrangement by Anne Tinari — Plants: Dora Baker and Mini Fantasy ➡

(Photo by Schroeder)





Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

*Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chr. Miniature & Semimini Class
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561*

In this column in March 1976, the following plants were noted as being changed to standards. The change of classification was inadvertently omitted from the 1976 supplement. Please note these changes in your miniature lists. Tinari's 'Coral Blaze', 'Carnival', 'Coral Pink', 'Haptica', 'Jungle Fire', 'Pom Pom Delight', 'Red Beam', 'Spitfire', 'White Moon' and Isla Montgomery's 'Ruth Dodge'.

Change: 'Irish Angel' by Annalee Violetry from a single to a double.

All the shows are over and most of us are looking forward to a relaxed easy summer. In the midst of all that relaxation, don't forget one of the cardinal rules in growing African violets, large or small, "consistency in care". Hit and miss watering, skipping too many feedings, suckers allowed to grow too large, neglected grooming of dead flowers and lack of a regular spraying program, will result in sad looking plants in the fall. It will take many hours of work to undo the damage that a little consistent care could have prevented.

If you will be taking a vacation, either arrange for a plant sitter or put them on wicks. The pro-

cedure of covering them with plastic that works so well in the cooler months, can be disastrous, in the summer. The heat builds up and plants suffer from the rise in temperature and the lack of air circulation.

Some of the newer plants that have proven to be delightful are: Lyndon Lyon's 'Little Rascal', 'Little Lulu', 'Little Lou', 'Toy Clown' (a must have), 'Reflections' and 'Wee Lass'. Ethel Champion's 'Button Trinket' and 'Tiffany Trinket' and Barr Tichnor's 'Barr's Blue Bird'. They are all heavy blooming, easy growing and different in flower and leaf coloring.

The 1975 Miniature and Semiminiature Culture and Variety list is available from me at the price of \$2.00. The 1976 supplement will be sent with each list free of charge. If you already have the list and just want the supplement, send me a large stamped self-addressed envelope. All checks or money order should be made out to AVSA. Please do not staple your checks. When there is much mail to go through, it is a nuisance to have to stop and take staples out.

Have a good summer and make sure your "little ones" also do, by not neglecting them.

Arrangement Is Hit on TV

←(See opposite page for picture of volcanic rock arrangement)

A volcanic rock arrangement was used by Anne Tinari on a television program earlier this year and proved the most popular arrangement she showed on the program. The arrangement consists of a large volcanic rock with two holes for planting. "I had planted the Devallia (rabbit-foot) fern in the rock months ago for another demonstration but there was still room for African violets, she said. So I planted 'Dora Baker' and 'Mini Fantasy' in this space and they did me proud!! I was amazed at the comment I received."

The arrangement was exhibited at Frank and Anne Tinari's 10th annual appearance as guests of Roy Kersey, famous TV personality of the "TV GARDEN CLUB" in Philadelphia, PA.

Frank showed new trends in African violets, in-

cluding variegated, mini's and hanging cultivars. A discussion on growing under artificial lights was followed by a demonstration on replanting pock-ets in a violet jar and tips on planting other popular gesneriads.

Anne conducted a clinic on African violet problems caused by severe low temperatures for 50 days and how it affected African violets in this cold winter of '77 in Philadelphia. Her program was highlighted with a display of African violet arrangements which are produced daily in the Tinari show rooms and greenhouses in Huntingdon Valley.

Arrangements in volcanic rock showing planting and decorating with them received much favorable comment.

African Violet Society of America, Inc.

ORGANIZED NOVEMBER 8, 1946 – INCORPORATED JUNE 30, 1947

"To stimulate a widespread interest in the propagation and culture of African violets everywhere"

The Board of Directors is composed of the elected officers, the directors, the immediate past president and the chairmen of standing committees.

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Los Angeles, CA 90064

Mrs. Robert L. Slocomb
30 Inglewood Dr.
Rochester, NY 14619

Edd Stretch Smith
4136 Flora Pl.
St. Louis, MO 63110

Mrs. Fred K. Smith
144 S. 39th St.
Omaha, NE 68131

Helen Ray Smith
1968 Plymouth St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

Mrs. George Spencer
28291 Portsmouth Dr.
Sun City, CA 92381

Mrs. Walter Spencer
18 S. Arlington Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Mrs. Thomas Springer
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Bakersfield, CA 93306

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Springfield, VA 22151

Mrs. H. W. Sullivan
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Delia Symonds
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Mrs. Joseph Szabo
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Parsippany, NJ 07054

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Box 837
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Mrs. Anne Tinari
2325 Valley Rd.
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Frank Tinari
2325 Valley Rd.
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Frank A. Tinari, Jr.
2320 Terwood Drive
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Miss Jennifer Ann Tinari
2320 Terwood Drive
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Mrs. M. S. Toft
9 Church Rd.
Mangere, Auckland 6, New Zealand

Mrs. Mary Tompkins
955 Ponderosa Ave., No. 29
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Mrs. Fred Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

Mrs. Patricia A. Tusing
10403 Klingerman
El Monte, CA 91733

Mrs. Hendrik Van Laer
39 Fleetwood Ave.
Albany, NY 12208

Mrs. Helen Van Zele
8302 Golden Ave.
Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Mrs. Joan Van Zele
8306 Golden Ave.
Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Mrs. Edgar F. Varick
161 Orange Ave.
Milford, CT 06460

Mrs. Martin Wangberg
Rt. 3 Loch Knolls
Spirit Lake, IA 51360

Mrs. Muriel A. Warwick
645 Pegasus Ln.
Foster City, CA 94404

Mrs. Jack H. Wasson
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Meadville, PA 16335

Clifford G. Webb
920 S. 27th St.
Temple, TX 76501

Mrs. Roy Weekes
1356 E. Cypress
Glendora, CA 91740

Mrs. G. H. Wilkins
5918 Ettrick St.
Houston, TX 77035

Mrs. Helen Van Pelt Wilson
36 Heritage Hill Road
New Canaan, CT 06840

Mrs. Jack H. Yakie
P. O. Box 674
Port Arthur, TX 77640

Mrs. Joy B. Williams
10 Evans St.
West Pymble 2073 N.S.W. Australia

Mrs. Robert Wright
4752 Calumet Dr. S.E.
Knoxville, TN 37919

Paul R. Younger
115 E. 9th St., Apt. 14-J
New York, NY 10003

A MILESTONE FOR AVSA . . .

Life Members Go Over 200 Mark on March 1, 1977

Mrs. E. A. Nelson, AVSA president, is delighted to report that with the addition of the following new life members, the total number now is an impressive 206 Life Members as of March 1, 1977.

The newest additions to the list are: Mrs. V. R. Nofziger, 225 Country Club Dr., Largo, FL; Mrs. J. L. DeLong, 6276 Brynwood Ct., San Diego, CA; Mrs. Miriam K. Greene, 4204 Cheryl Ann Ct., Stone Mtn., GA; Mrs. Patricia A. Tusing, 10403 Klingerman, El Monte, CA; Miss Barbara A. Bieker, 1716 E. 121st St., Crown Point, Ind.;

Brian Lundy, 27452 Powers, Westland, MI; Edward Bradford, 87-05 89th St., Woodhaven, NY; Mrs. G. M. Penn, 4522 Crompton Dr., Columbus, OH and John T. Brownlie, 600 Silvercreek Blvd., Mississauga, Ont., Canada.

Also Miss Allene M. Callens, 1552 E. Hueneme Rd., Oxbard, CA 93030; Mrs. Frank J. Schrey, Jr., 7512 Boyer St., Philadelphia, PA 19119 and Mrs. Jack H. Wasson, Rt. 1, Meadville, PA 16355.

A hearty welcome to each of you.

Grower Helped by Magazine Article

Ideas of American African violet growers printed in *The African Violet Magazine* are of much benefit to AV growers in other parts of the world.

Proof of this was received by Marie Moos of Watertown, WI in a letter from Mrs. B. Moores, 12 Mopani Road, Vontali, Rhodesia. Here's the letter:

"Some weeks ago I received the *African Violet Magazine* from America and avidly read it from cover to cover. On reading your article on rooting leaves, I happened to have a leaf that I had only just put in some soil. So I popped a plastic bag over leaf and pot! I also had four other leaves that I had planted in soil, but didn't cover them.

"You can imagine my delight when only after a few weeks, a tiny green leaf was visible in the pot I had covered. So the others I had left uncovered, now also have plastic bags over them.

"I firmly believe that the plastic bag enhanced the growth considerably. The soil stayed moist, which is the most important factor, especially at this time of the year in Rhodesia when plants have to be watched every day as they dry out quickly.

"I was particularly happy that this leaf has 'taken' since it came all the way from England to

Rhodesia. Due to sanctions and the very precarious position we live in in Rhodesia, unfortunately we don't get the many different variations to grow. I only have the very common colors, but do take delight in tending them.

"I just love receiving the *African Violet Magazine*. While in England I became an AVSA member last year. I only wish now I had done it sooner. The winning plants photographed in the magazine are very beautiful. They must be wonderful to actually see in true life.

"I am very surprised to see the many activities of the African violet clubs in America. The competition between hybridizers must be very keen to produce bigger and better varieties. I wish them every success in the cultivation of this wonderful and popular plant."

USE RAIN WATER

Here's a tip from Mrs. Dale Andrews, 3830 Colina Lane, Waco, TX 76705:

"When using chemicals to treat African violets for insects, if the grower will use rain water, the offensive odor will be reduced considerably.

The Happy Gardener

*Mrs. Clarissa Start Lippert
High Ridge, MO*

(ED. NOTE: Mrs. Lippert was one of the speakers at the AVSA convention in St. Louis, MO.)

This is a terrible admission to make to members of the African Violet Society but I don't grow them. Oh, I try to grow them — in fact, I have five right now, two in bloom and none with mealy bugs. At least I try to keep the mealy bugs off, ever since that embarrassing moment at a party at my house when one of the women guests approached me and, in that tone one woman uses to tell another her slip is showing, whispered to me, "My dear, I hate to tell you this but your African violets have mealy bugs." The next day I was busy with toothpick and cotton swab and alcohol and since then I've given the violets the closest scrutiny before every party.

But managing to keep a few violets in bloom and free of mealy bugs is not growing African violets. The true African violet grower — and I don't have to tell any of you this — has them pushing her out of the house, burgeoning with bloom under fluorescent lights in the basement (where she eliminated her husband's work bench long ago); she has exhibition plants, yea, wide and great grandchildren of the biggest ones starting new plants from tiny leaves in water glasses protected with aluminum wrap or mini greenhouses. Her African violets never fail, never die and her only problem is where to put all of them.

This is a talent, a true talent like being able to sing on perfect pitch, or write a Shakesperian sonnet or turn a block of marble into a lean muscular David. You might say the African violet growers are the Michaelangelos of the garden world.

I admire you. I envy you. But I must admit, I just don't have it. However, I consider African violets the real stars of indoor gardening, more beautiful than any other house plant, even more beautiful than orchids, which I do grow with some degree of success. (Anyone can grow an orchid — or cactus — or philodendron.)

So the admission is made; I can't grow African violets and I thought we'd better make that clear from the start.

It doesn't keep me from trying what you can never quite achieve is the essence of the optimistic gardener. For five years I've been writing a weekly column called "The Happy Gardener," and while

I'm woefully inadequate as an African violet grower, I do have some expertise on the subject of happy gardeners.

The Happy Gardener is just about every gardener. I'm sure many of you are familiar with the old Chinese proverb:

If you would be happy for a day, get drunk.

If you would be happy for three days, kill your pig and eat it.

If you would be happy for a week, take a wife

If you would be happy for a lifetime, plant a garden.

I wonder how many of you know garden writer Gertrude Jekyll's works? This pioneering English gardener had her first book published in 1889 at age 56 and before she died, at 89, had written 13 books and planned or planted something like 350 gardens. She is, you might say, my ideal. Over the seas and over the years, I identify with so much she had to say. For instance:

"The lesson I have thoroughly learnt and wish to pass on to other," she said in one book, "is to know the enduring happiness that the love of a garden gives . . . I have learned much, and am always learning, from other people's gardens, and the lesson I have learned most thoroughly is, never to say 'I know' — there is so infinitely much to learn.

"And a garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all, it teaches entire trust. 'Paul planteth and Apollo watereth, but God giveth the increase.'"

Looking back on my own gardening experience, something less than Gertrude Jekyll's 89 years, and considerably less than 350 gardens, I realize how much I have learned, not in technique but in basic philosophy, in the acceptance of the world of nature and its ways.

Growing up as a city child, mostly in apartments, I had no opportunity to admire gardens except from afar. As children, we went to our own famous Shaw's Garden and walked in the palm house admiring exotic plants but never quite relating to them. More familiar was the snowball bush in my aunt's back yard, and, I recall, being abso-

lutely overcome by lilacs on the campus when I went to college, the University of Missouri which is — was then — in a small, very flowering town.

But my first real garden came about in 1940 when my husband and I moved from our apartment to a rented house in the suburbs and I plunged into growing flowers with absolute ignorance and tremendous enthusiasm. After a kind neighbor pointed out to me that my petunias would do better if I pulled out the huge weeds overshadowing them (I thought they were the petunias) I decided to read, study, learn, and I've never stopped.

Each time we moved, I had to start learning all over again. From our rented house, we went to a new "ranch house" (even the phrase was new then) where the garden consisted of excavation clay but grew fantastically beautiful roses. I fancied myself a rose expert and gave advice to all my friends.

We moved to another suburb, to a 100-year-old house, surrounded by oak trees and rampant honeysuckle. I moved 30 of my favorite roses with me. 29 died. Eventually I switched allegiance to azaleas which do better under oak trees.

When I moved to my present house, a small one on 10 acres of rocky hills, I soon learned we were on limestone cliffs where the spading fork goes clang every time you sink it into the spot where you thought you were going to plant something. I began learning again . . . learning, for instance, that azaleas do not like limestone. But clematis does. And so do iris and lilacs. And if you remove quantities of soil and mix potting soil with peat moss and apply azalea fertilizer, you can fool those acid loving azaleas and even rhododendrons into growing there. Eventually . . . with gypsum and compost and peatmoss and heavy straw mulch — and patience, you can even improve the soil and have a garden on the rocks.

Perhaps the most important lesson I've learned in all those years of gardening is the power of nature and of God. The gardener is only the go-between. The gardener does not "make things grow." She helps put plants into the most advantageous setting, encourages them, yes, talks to them . . . but nature — and God — makes them grow. You develop a great deal of humility after years of trying to grow roses under oak trees and azaleas in front of limestone walls.

You learn that the gardener must adapt to nature. If grass will not grow on a rocky hillside, a rock garden will. After two years of laboriously removing clumps of grass (which decided they would grow persistently after I started the rock garden), suddenly this spring, the flowers emerged without coaxing or arranging - - - drifts of phlox

subulata cerastium and long protective arms of cotoneaster horizontalis.

A few years ago I didn't know the names, let alone how to pronounce them but now I know that these plants like rocks and so I like them.

We tend to think of a garden as alien plants which we "set out" and of the native plants as weeds which we root out, but this isn't necessarily wise. One man's weed is very definitely another gardener's cherished flower.

A few years ago, the Burpee seed people caused a stir by including dandelion seeds in the company's catalog. Most of us believe the saying, "Give dandelions an inch and they will take a yard," and ruthlessly gouge them out. But many people like the dark green leaves boiled as a vegetable, and the hearts — they say — taste like endive. Some dandelion aficionados brew tea from the roots and others never pick a plant until after it has flowered so they can make wine from the yellow blossoms. To some people they're pretty. An Eskimo child called them "sunshine in the grass."

I recall my amazement, visiting an English garden some years ago, when my host walked me through fields of foxglove, growing wild and treated with the casual contempt wildflowers get. Then, as we approached a wooded area, he began flailing at familiar looking shrubs with his cane and saying, "And these blasted things — we can't get rid of them."

"That's funny," I said. "They look just like rhododendron."

"That's right," he said. "Rhododendron. Can't get rid of the blasted things."

And yet, on the south coast of England, I'm told, they cultivate and nourish and cherish a plant difficult to grow there. Its common name is goldenrod.

So we all try to grow the impossible even while we know we should appreciate the homegrown.

Another lesson the gardener should learn: although the sundial's carved motto urges us to "Count only the sunny hours," we must realize that it takes more than sunny hours to make a garden grow.

Those of you who grow Christmas cactus know how important it is to insure a long dark night when the plant is forming its flower buds. To turn on artificial light even for a few moments may interrupt the cycle. The same is true of poinsettias — and chrysanthemums. It's the dark hours that make the mums bloom.

Thomas Dreier writes that we tend to think of sunshine as positive and darkness as negative, of joy as good and grief as evil. But, he says, "flower

growers have found what they need to hasten maturity is not more sunlight but more darkness regularly applied." He continues:

"The dark days of our lives may be the ones that do most to hasten our maturity. After people have had great trouble one hears it said of them, 'That experience caused him to grow up.' The man has to fight his way to success, who overcomes obstacles, who knows days of heartbreak and disappointment, should give thanks for those gifts straight from the gods that have increased his strength. Days of darkness may be fitting us to make better use of our days of sunlight."

Those of you who have been widowed - - - or have known other sorrow - - - can attest to the truth of that statement.

Not all gardening is pure science. Much of it is an art. In fact, Thomas Jefferson called gardening the "seventh fine art." And much of it cannot be explained away with rules. It just happens.

The ancient gardeners passed down much of what they learned in old wives tales and we know now that many of the things looked on as folklore have a basis in fact.

We use to smile patronizingly at the old farmer who planted potatoes in the dark of the moon, but now moon sign planting is gaining scientific acceptance. And many people have accepted it because they find it really works.

Last summer, a cousin of my husband's visited and told of an experience he'd had many years ago.

"My wife and I decided to plant potatoes," he recalled, "and we were cutting them up, as you do, when my father said, 'You're planting those too early. You ought to wait until next week and plant in the dark of the moon.'"

"I gave him the usual answer - 'I'm planting them in the ground, not on the moon,' " the cousin recalled, "and we went on, preparing the eyes but suddenly my wife stopped and said, 'You know, he might be right.' And so we decided to plant what we had cut up and wait until next week for the rest.

"We did - and the results were amazing. The ones we planted by the light of the moon, at the wrong time, were much bigger with more foliage, but when we dug them up, the potatoes were little things, hardly worth using. The ones we'd planted after the full moon were shorter sturdier plants and the potatoes were enormous. It really made believers out of us."

The growth of organic gardeners and the increase of youthful ecologists has revived an interest in moon sign gardening and in its related area, companionate planting, whereby the garden-

er utilizes one plant to discourage the pests common to another. If you'd like to try, for fun or experiment, here are some of the tried and true companions:

Marigolds around the tomatoes; or marigolds around just about anything will discourage many garden pests.

Plant chives with your carrots but keep dill away from carrots and plant it with the cabbage instead. Sage is supposed to deter the cabbage moth but doesn't get along with cucumbers. Summer savory will deter bean beetles. Mints generally are good near both cabbage and tomatoes but don't let them take over. Petunias are supposed to be protection for the beans, and nasturtiums are good to plant under the fruit trees. And many rose gardeners swear that they've been able to give up spraying ever since they started planting garlic among the roses.

There's a book on "Old Wives Lore for Gardeners," new this spring, and it contains one bit of advice with which I agree. It suggests sowing seed thickly, or as the old verse points out:

One for the rock, one for the crow

One to die and one to grow.

I did just that, only in our garden it was 18 peas planted for the rabbits on an unprotected slope of ground, and 80 for the family in a wire enclosure. Last year the rabbits got all of them.

Another old wives' tale suggests you tear up your horsehair mattress, if you happen to have one, and add it to the garden soil. Or, if you're a hairdresser, just use the hair combings from your customers to put in the trench where you're planting. My hairdresser, German born and a gardener of ability, does just that and his roses are the greatest.

We all know how the Indians taught the Pilgrims to bury fish in the corn rows but have you ever heard of burying an old pair of shoes near the peach tree? I'm not sure that plastic shoes work as well as leather.

And then there's another old wives tale that I've never had the courage to follow. Your spring planting should be done, say many old herbals, in the nude. I think this is to make sure it's warm enough for the tender seeds - - - but I really don't advocate it for the crowded suburban areas.

Talking to one's plants has had a great vogue in recent years, following the noted Cleve Backster experiments in which he came up with some astounding seismographic reactions which indicated that plants can experience fear of people who are bent on their destruction, and do, apparently, have different responses to different people. This has led to all sorts of ramifications, such as the

plant that talks back via a recorder. And, of course, the cartoon of the wilting plant, complaining sadly, "She talked me to death."

I'm more inclined to go along with Roberta Pliner's advice in her "Lazy Indoor Gardener" book. She says: "Whatever you've heard to the contrary, it's really not necessary to have a love affair with every leaf in order to have a beautiful house plant collection . . . There are ways of indoor gardening that can keep the usual house plant grande passion on the more casual level of platonic friendship. You can ignore some of the traditional no-nos, skip a lot of frills, turn off the Bach sonatas and still have great plants."

Her advice, in substance: stick to the plants that are easy for you to grow and avoid the temperamental ones or the ones for which your gardening skills aren't suited . . . I keep coming back to African violets just the same.

There are two schools of thought on the magic of a green thumb. English gardener Gertude Jekyll wrote that she had no patience with the visitors who adopted a bantering tone and said, "Oh, but anything will grow for you." Nonsense, it's hard work, she implied.

Another English gardener, Beverley Nichols, a witty and charming writer, whom I interviewed when he visited this area, believes that some people do possess magical properties. Chaucer wrote of the green thumb. Every language, including Arabic and Chinese, has its word for it, and there is some scientific credence to the belief that there may be a mystical unity between the blood in the veins of a man or woman and the sap that flows in trees and plants.

It was Beverley Nichols who wrote this delightful comment on the garden practice of taking cuttings, such as geranium branches, and creating new plants.

"Do you realize that the whole thing is miraculous?" he asked. "It is exactly as though you were to cut off your wife's leg, stick it in the lawn and be greeted on the following day by an entirely new woman sprung from the leg, advancing across the lawn to meet you.

"Surely you would be surprised, if, having snipped off your little finger and pushed it into a flower pot, you were to find a miniature edition of yourself in the flower pot a day or two later. Even if you were prepared for it, your wife would think the whole thing highly suspicious and might institute proceedings for divorce!"

Flip it is - - and yet profound, too. For the whole business of gardening is miraculous. The African violet leaf that becomes a plant. The little nobby that unfolds into a gloriously colorful

flower. The cycle of life and death - and rebirth. The inexorable change of the seasons. The lengthening and shortening of the days and the response of our growing world to the alteration of time.

As a garden writer, I admire many garden writers - as you've gathered by now - - but the master of them all is Hal Borland, whose columns have been gathered together in such books as "Sundial of the Seasons" and the New York Times Garden Book. One of the wisest of his observations is this one:

"The green world is a comfort, not only to tired eyes but to jangled nerves. Man's haste and tensions have not altered by one iota the pulse of a maple's sap or the deliberate growth of a carrot, and his loud disagreements have yet to change the relationship of a bee and a blossom. Man gets so busy with his own affairs that he sometimes forgets these things. The noise of his machines tends to drown out the quiet fundamental voices. But if all the machines rusted away, the garden world would still be there, quietly going about important business and waiting for men to look and listen and learn."

Look - listen - learn. That's the key to successful gardening. And always - always - try to accomplish a little more than you've tried before. Try the impossible, if you will. This time you may make it.

Inspired by this group - - I believe I'll try African violets again.

BLUE ROSETTE WINNERS LISTED

Blue Rosette winners announced at the AVSA convention in St. Louis, MO are as follows:

First Arlington AVS, First New Orleans AVS, Long Island AVS, Memphis & Shelby County AVS, Union County Chapter of AVSA, Inc., AVS of Syracuse, Montgomery AVS, Metropolitan AVS of Peoria, Mid South AVS, North Shore AVS, AVS of Staten Island, First Austin AVS, AV Study Club of Houston, and Suburban African Violet Friends.

Convention Dates

1978 - Austin, TX. Driskill Hotel, April 13 - 15.

1979 - Denver, CO. Albany Hotel, June 6 - 9.

1980 - New Orleans, LA

1981 - San Francisco, CA

1982 - Syracuse, NY

Projecting Plant Slides

Harvey Stone
51 Peach Highlands
Marblehead, MA 01945

(Harvey Stone, new AVSA Library Committee Chairman, appeared on a workshop, "A Way With Cameras", at the AVSA convention in St. Louis, MO)

When I was invited to be a panel member I looked at the list of the other panelists and decided they might be better qualified to help you with photographing your plants than I. Having sat through many so-called amateur slide shows the thought came to me that perhaps I could help you more by giving you some hints on how to put on a good slide show.

First in importance, assuming that you have some good slides, is to edit them mercilessly. As you look at each slide ask yourself, "Is it properly exposed? Is it clear, sharply in focus?" You wouldn't intentionally enter a plant for show if it were deformed, diseased, less than symmetrical, etc. Why should you show a slide that is too light, too dark, not in focus, etc? Sure, when you first get your slides back from the processor you are going to show them all for your own edification, but why show them to others if you have to apologize for them — "this one is too dark but it is the only one I have of the Queen of the Show" — "This is out of focus but I only took one of the Theme of the Show" — "This is too light", etc.

Second, why blind your audience with a screen without a slide projected on it? Each projector has the means of preventing this. With a Kodak Carousel projector which, incidentally, our Library asks you to use when showing a Library slide program, you can simply place a 2 x 2 piece of cardboard no thicker than a slide mount into the projector gate before you start projecting. The cardboard will move into the "0" slot in the tray as soon as the tray rotates to slide number one. When you advance the tray after showing the last slide in a full tray, the cardboard will be lowered into the gate and will block off the light while you replace the tray. If the tray is not completely filled, insert a similar piece of cardboard into the slot following the last slide. You can also separate different sections of your show the same way.

Third, in planning your slide show you should set up your seating so that if you have a matte-type screen no viewer will be more than preferably 30° off the lens axis, an imaginary line drawn from your projector lens to the center of the screen. If using a beaded screen, no viewer should be more than 25° off this axis.

Fourth, the advice from Audio Visual experts is to hold down the length of your show to the "attention span" of the audience. You may agree with me that most violet growers will gladly sit and pay rapt attention to good slides for more than the average of 45 minutes that is recommended. This you may have to judge separately for each show and audience.

Another aide is to mark your slides with at least a minimum of information... the date, location and name of plant. This can pay dividends if you should accidentally drop your slides, thus thoroughly piecing them as our good friend Gus Becker would say about spilled type. It can also help you if you loan them to someone else. If you look at them or even project them some time later, the identification information you have placed on each one will be of immense value in enhancing your enjoyment.

Why not take a tip from the AVSA library slide programs you probably have all seen? When you have a really good set of slides, why not make it up into a program? You can combine slides from several sets if advisable to make your program. Write out or type a brief commentary for each slide. This will add considerably to the professionalism of your show. Something your library chairman hopes to get into this next year is to record such commentaries on a cassette tape and where this is done, give those borrowing the programs the choice of using either the commentary in the usual manner or using the cassette.

Here are some excellent sources of further information: All are from Eastman Kodak's "Here's How" series of books. Number Two has an article on Titling, No. 7 on "Top-Quality Slide Projection" and No. 9 on "Producing Successful Slide Shows". There is, of course, some duplication in the articles in Numbers 7 & 9, but both are informative and interesting.

Please send names of new officers to Mildred Schroeder, Affiliate chairman—NOT to the Editor!

COMING EVENTS must reach the Editor's desk before the deadline dates. See page 3 under **MAGAZINE** for deadline dates.

DO YOU KNOW...

How Boyce Edens Research Funds Are Used?

Mrs. L. F. Lidiak - 4503 Sinclair Avenue - Austin, TX 78756

(These three talks were made at a St. Louis Convention workshop)

"We hit the jackpot!" and "African Violet Growers Credited with Being First to Use Fluorescent Lamps." Actually, there are 30 years separating these two statements. The first was made by Henry Peterson, Chairman, Scientific Committee of AVSA in 1950; the latter being the title of an article in the *African Violet Magazine*, September, 1975, by Dr. Henry M. Cathey of the USDA, Agricultural Research Center. Mr. Peterson's statement was made as the result of a research grant completed at Ohio State University which had discovered the fact that the African violet responded well to fluorescent light. This had been the first research project sponsored by AVSA.

In this 30-year interval, much transition has taken place. The Scientific Committee has become the Research Committee, and a formalized program has been established for the purpose of accumulating funds to be used for research. In 1952 a southern gentleman who had been one of the founders of AVSA, its first treasurer and first chairman of the Plant Registration Committee was lost through death. Because of Boyce Edens' tremendous contributions to the formation of AVSA and many of its facets, as well as his avid interest in research, the Scientific Committee presented a resolution to the general body suggesting that the Boyce Edens Memorial Fund be established in his honor. So was born an entity that has now become the Boyce Edens Research Fund.

The function of the BERF chairman is basically to receive and acknowledge the voluntary contributions from individuals/affiliates. The Standing Rules of AVSA outline the duties of this chairmanship in five parts: (1) solicit contributions; (2) promptly forward all funds received to the AVSA Treasurer; (3) submit a list of donors and contri-

buted amounts to the *AV Magazine*; and (5) maintain a file of all affiliates and a record of the date and amount of each donation.

In addition to the voluntary funds received, there is another important source of monies. All dues from commercial members over and above the amount of an individual membership are deposited directly by the AVSA Treasurer into the Boyce Edens Research Fund.

1976 - 1977 being my first year of service in this capacity has been a most interesting one. My curiosity has been piqued — urging me to go back through the history of AVSA via the *AV Magazine* in order to try to see the entire picture of the research program as it now exists. If you ever have the chance I suggest this "trip" be made by each of you. AVSA has sponsored some most worthy programs, and one look at the "show plants" of the 1940-50 era as compared to those of the 1970's will point out to you just how much we as individual growers have benefitted by these expenditures. Remember — we have reaped the benefits of these projects from two directions: (1) directly and (2) indirectly because of the improved knowledge of particular value to the commercial growers which has been passed on to us through plant improvement.

As to the goals I hold for 1977-78. I hope to be able to help answer the often-posed question — "how are these funds used?" I would call every AVSA member's attention to the yearly report of the Research Committee, given during the convention and then published, usually in the September issue of the *AV Magazine*. I sincerely believe that when any member or any affiliate becomes aware of how important this program is to all African violet growers, each will wish to become one of those who helped!

Booster Funds Help AVSA In Many Ways?

*Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Drive
Shreveport, LA 71106*

Since I was not active in our society at the time the Booster Fund was organized, I have relied on board members who sat in on meetings at that time and took part in the organization procedure to inform me as to how it all came about. This, I

relate to you as it was given to me.

It was organized at the AVSA Convention in our present host city, St. Louis, in the year 1968 at a time when AVSA's finances were very low. There was not sufficient money to support a new

project or a new service to the AVSA membership and some projects current at that time were curtailed because of lack of funds, so the board put forth every effort to come up with a new idea to provide more money.

After much thought and discussion it was suggested that each board member make a small contribution and start a fund to Boost our general treasury. This fund was not to be reserved for any specific project or projects but was to be deposited in the AVSA general fund and was to be used wherever it was needed most.

The first little contribution made by board members served as a nucleus to build to. It was named the Booster Fund and was placed in our general treasury. Next, accounts of this were printed in our AVSA magazine and you were given an opportunity to contribute, which you always do so generously. The Booster Fund began to grow and the AVSA finances began to pick up and soon there was sufficient money to operate comfortably again. (I would like to say the Booster Fund was responsible for this but perhaps I should just say our contribution helped.)

Many ask about benefits from the Booster Fund. After our general finances improved, which included Booster Fund donations, some of our old

projects took on new life and new projects were added to our program. For instance: Tally Time, a new program in the past few years is now printed in our magazine. A special committee to classify miniatures and semiminiatures was appointed and now members may obtain a listing of same. Additional color pages, many photographs from our conventions, in color, began to appear. The Accumulative Index is also available. Affiliate President's Guide Books are included with our charter. Our magazine was increased by eight pages and our headquarters in Knoxville has received new equipment. The Booster Fund was only a small part of all this but every little bit helps, you know, and we are proud of it.

This fund furnishes a spot where donations may be made in memory of loved ones or in honor of certain people or occasions. Also, many speakers are contributing their speaker's fee and judges are contributing expenses given them for their services.

Your board is a dedicated group and they put much time and thought on placing your gifts where they will benefit the most AVSA members.

I wish to thank all of you for your contributions in the past and let me urge you to keep them coming in. You will be glad you did.

How We Get AVSA Awards?

*Mrs. Richard A. Chase
Awards Chairman
482 Rutherford Ave.
Redwood City, CA 94061*

In the June Magazine each year I ask for awards for next year's Convention Show. And each year an aide from the area where the Convention is to be held is appointed to the Awards Committee for a one-year term. The duties of this aide are not only to assist me at the Convention but also to help secure awards from the Convention area. Awards are needed for the entire show: Amateur and Commercial — Horticulture and Design Divisions.

Now, it is most important that all possible information on awards be sent me by September 1. This deadline is necessary in order that the awards may be listed in the January Magazine. Should some additional awards be received between September 1 and December 31, it is possible to list these in the Convention Souvenir Book, but no, and I do have to emphasize this, no awards can be accepted after December 31.

The reason for this is that there is a tremendous amount of work in connection with the handling

of the awards. First, there is the listing which is required for the January Magazine, so you can all see what is offered. Then, there is the listing for the Convention Souvenir Book. Everyone attending the Convention gets one. The judges' sheets, cards and envelopes are prepared. Also, complete information has to be furnished to Mrs. Carey and her Committee so that all can be ready before the Convention opens.

In making an award, if you have a preference for its use, please designate this. However, some donors have standing requests for awards to be used for a certain class. I try to assign all awards as requested but if there is a prior request, this is not always possible. Also, if two awards come in for say, a single pink, one for \$15 and the other for \$10, then the larger award would be for first place and the other for second place.

When I became Awards Chairman, the procedure seemed to be to have a first and second award in each class, and I have tried to keep it that way,

without dividing the cash award from one donor, unless the donor requests it. In other words, if someone makes a \$15 award, I try to use it as one award or as a first and second in the same class.

Some donors want to give awards for certain named cultivars, say the best of three named cultivars. This makes it very difficult, not only for the judges, but also for all who work in the show room, and we can no longer accept any such awards. Any award for a named cultivar must be

for one plant only. And, of course, it is important that any award for a named cultivar be made early so that information on the award can appear in the January Magazine, or earlier, giving growers time to groom such plants for the show.

Should a cash award not be awarded at the Convention Show, the money is not returned to the donor but is put into the Convention Fund. Other awards will be held for the next Convention.

All Lamps Are Growth Lamps

*H. M. Cathey,
Research Horticulturist
Florist and Nursery Crops Laboratory
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Beltsville, MD 20705*

Let us assume that the natural light in the living space is insufficient to help maintain the plants and that artificial light must be used. There are so many claims and counterclaims concerning the merits of special lamps, the gardener is often confused and intimidated from trying gardening under lamps. Gardeners can experience the genuine pleasures and challenges.

Recent research in the U.S. Department of Agriculture has simplified what indoor gardeners need to know, equipment they need to buy, and changes they need to make in the environment to grow plants successfully under lights.

Light Sources: The most efficient, the most widely available, and the longest lasting fluorescent lamps are cool white (CW) and warm white (WW). Most growth lamps age more rapidly than CW or WW, thus the light output diminishes rapidly.

Distance: Mount lamps 6 inches away from the plants to supply 8,000 lux of light. This intensity of light is sufficient to sustain the growth of a wide range of plants. Remember! When you increase the distance of the plant from 6 to 12 inches, you reduce the intensity in half. Fluorescent lamps mounted more than 4 feet from a plant do not provide sufficient light to make it worth the use of it.

Wattage: Use the most commonly available 40 watt, 4-foot lamps. Their fixtures (connectors, ballasts, and reflectors) are available everywhere. They are a once in a lifetime investment.

Appearance: CW lamps tend to reduce the hue of the foliage and flowers. WW lamps emphasize the warm colors. Growth lamps enhance the blue and red region and darken the greens.

Regulation: Plants operate on a 24-hour

rhythm. Use a time clock to regulate the 12 to 16 hour light, 12 to 8 hour dark period and to extend the useful life of the lamps.

Reflection: Cover all surrounding surfaces with reflective material such as mirrors, mirrorized mylar, aluminium foil. These surfaces reflect 97-99 percent of the light and increase the light available to the plant.

Leaf surfaces: Dust which accumulates on the surfaces of leaves cuts down the light available to the plant, both by reflecting light away from the plant and reducing transmission of light into the leaf. Wash all plants at monthly intervals in warm (90°F) soapy water. Rinse with clear water and dry. Remove all damaged leaves and flowers to permit light to get into plant.

Yearly cycle: Replace all lamps every year. Even though the lamps will light longer than for 1 year, the output is greatly reduced and is an inefficient use of electricity. Schedule and replace lamps yearly.

Finally, explore locations in your living space where lamps will permit you to add green plants to your decoration. It will become your adventure of mixing the art and the science of gardening.

(ED. NOTE: Dr. Cathey was one of the speakers at the St. Louis Convention. He is currently reviewing lights of African violets, spectral dependence, intermittent light and supplemental lighting. When the experiments are complete, Dr. Cathey will plan an article for the African Violet Magazine).

DEADLINES are deadly! They must be observed if our Magazine is published on time. See page 3 under **MAGAZINE** for deadline dates.

Mrs. Glen B. Hudson Is Awarded Coveted Honorary Life Membership

One of the most coveted awards presented to an AVSA member at each convention is the Honorary Life Membership. This year at the St. Louis Convention this great honor was bestowed upon Mrs. Glen B. (Mabel) Hudson, 761 Belvidere Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090.

Mabel has been growing African violets for many years, specializing in the species. She has been an active AVSA member since 1953. In 1955 she won her first blue ribbon at an AVSA judges show and also attended her first Convention in Pittsburgh. She has attended every Convention since then. She became a judge in 1957 and a Lifetime judge in 1966.

Her many activities for AVSA include being Yearbook Chairman in 1960, Hospitality Chair-

man for the 1965 AVSA Convention in Baltimore, and Awards Chairman for seven years. Presently she is vice chairman of the Awards Committee.

Mabel is a charter member of both the New York City AVS and the Union County Chapter of the AVSA and has served as President of the New Jersey Council of AV Clubs and Union County Chapter of the AVSA.

She has served in many capacities on shows; has manned approximately 25 Educational Exhibits for Affiliate shows as well as a large number of garden clubs. At the 1967 AVSA Convention in Poston she featured 31 Saintpaulia species, 18 different varieties, in the Educational Exhibit.

Mabel has made many long tiring trips to judge shows and is always willing to do anything she can to promote goodwill for AVSA.

Continuing Service Certificates Given

In appreciation of their continued services to AVSA over a longtime period and for their interest in growing African violets and spreading knowledge of their culture Continuing Service Certificates were awarded three African violet growers at the AVSA convention in St. Louis, MO.

The certificates were presented to:

Mrs. Ross V. (Emma) Lahr, 3559 E. Easter Ave., Littleton, CO 80122

Emma has served AVSA in many capacities since 1967 when she was appointed "Best Varieties-Honor Roll Compiler" following the Boston Convention. She held this post until 1970 and handled this detailed work most efficiently.

In 1968 she was elected to a three-year term as an AVSA Director and then was appointed Convention Program Chairman in 1971. She was responsible for arranging for the excellent workshops and programs at the New York, Minneapolis, Hartford, Boston and Atlanta Conventions. Currently she is serving as an AVSA Director.

Emma has also been very active in promoting AVSA in the Colorado area. She is an AVSA judge and teacher; has been most zealous in gaining new friends for AVSA by selling AVSA memberships at the Denver shows, and promoted the idea of Denver hosting an AVSA Convention, which we are looking forward to in 1979.

Mrs. Wayne (Mildred) Schroeder, 1739 N. 74th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635

Mildred was Chairman of the Library Commit-

tee for six years, doing an excellent job. She is an AVSA judge and a member of the Illinois AVS and the Exhibitor's Club.

She is concluding a three-year term as AVSA Director; has been on many AVSA Committees, including being Chairman of the Nominating Committee. As of February 1, 1977 she took over the duties of the Affiliate Chairman.

Mrs. Robert (Ann) Slocumb, 30 Inglewood Drive, Rochester, NY 14619

Since 1947 Ann has been supporting AVSA in many ways. She helped bring the African violet to the attention of the Rochester Garden Center, where Ann was the speaker, and from that meeting the Rochester AVS was born.

In April 1949 she attended her first Convention; in 1951 she became a judge; she has held various offices, including President of the Rochester AVS; in 1958 she was Show Chairman of the AVSA Convention at Rochester; has been AVSA Program Chairman and has served as a Director. Currently she is Chairman of the Resolutions Committee and is a member of the Awards Committee and the Shows and Judges Committee.

PLEASE BE PATIENT

If your article or picture has not been printed in the magazine, please be patient. As soon as space is available, it will be used.

C. Huebscher Gets Leadership Award

Mrs. Frank S. (Chris) Huebscher, 3920 West 16th Street, Panama City, FL 32401, was awarded the Ruth Carey Leadership Award at the AVSA Convention in St. Louis, MO.

Chris has been interested in African violets for many, many years. She organized the first African violet club in Panama City in January 1954, which club was affiliated with AVSA in June 1954. She established the second club in Panama City in 1957, which club is now known as Miracle Strip African Violet Society of Panama City. She has been instrumental in forming many other violet clubs in the South. She is a charter member of the Dixie African Violet Society, served as its second President, and served again as its President during 1974 and 1975. She is presently the Art Editor of *The Dixie News*.

Chris has been tireless in promoting all phases

AVSA Sweepstakes Winners Listed

Four Silver Bowls were awarded to AVSA members who won the most blue ribbons in specimen classes in shows sponsored by AVSA Affiliates during the past year. Presentation of the awards were made at the St. Louis MO convention.

Receiving awards were: Mrs. Christine D. Lepard of Westfield, NJ who won 192 blue ribbons; Mrs. Jessie Crisafulli of Belchertown, MA with 157 blue ribbons; Mrs. James Savage of Chillicothe, OH with 143, and Mrs. Joanne Steffen of St. Louis, MO with 105.

AWARDS FOR NEW AVSA MEMBERSHIPS

The award offered by Edith Peterson, past AVSA President, to the affiliate selling the most NEW AVSA memberships at its show during 1976 was won by Rocky Mountain AV Council. 72 memberships were sold, all of them by Emma Lahr.

A second award was given to Metropolitan St. Louis AVS, which sold 64 memberships.

Congratulations and sincere thanks to both these affiliates.

Many thanks also to the following affiliates who sent in reports of their shows:

	Memberships Sold
AVS of San Francisco	49
AVS of South Bay (CA)	45
Wisconsin Council of AVC	30

of Dixie activities in accordance with the objectives of AVSA. She is an AVSA Lifetime Member, an AVSA Lifetime Judge and Teacher and she was the Show Chairman for the AVSA Convention in Atlanta. She has stimulated widespread interest in the propagation and culture of African violets through articles in the *African Violet Magazine* and in *The Dixie News* and through lectures at many clubs.

HONORARY ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS AWARDED

Honorary one-year memberships were awarded the following at the AVSA Convention in St. Louis, MO:

Mrs. Margaret Booth, 187 Edgemont Road, Rochester, NY 14620

Margaret has been growing African violets since 1939. She is a charter member of AVSA, a charter member of AVS of Greater Pittsburgh where she has held all offices except President. She was the Show Chairman for the 1955 AVSA Convention at Pittsburgh. Margaret moved to Rochester, NY and has been an active member in the Rochester AVS since 1968; she is a former judge; sets up and mans the Educational booth each year. When the Black Creek Saintpaulia Society was formed a year ago, she was one of the first members. She is 76 years young.

Mrs. Ralph E. (Gertrude) Caye, 70 Eastview Drive, Windsor, CT 06095

Gertrude has been growing African violets for a long time and has been active in organizing and helping with local shows. She was the Registration Chairman for the 1974 AVSA Convention at Hartford. She is a Lifetime Judge and is currently the President of the Nutmeg State African Violet Society.

Miss Ruth Hatch, RFD Rte. 148, Hillingworth, CT 06417

Ruth has been active in violet activities for quite some time. She is an AVSA judge; served as Show Chairman for the 1974 AVSA Convention at Hartford. She is currently First Vice President of the Nutmeg State African Violet Society as well as the Editor of its publication, *The Nutmegger*.

Mrs. Richard (Dorris) Hundley, 921 Spencer Way, Los Altos, CA 94022

Dorris' specialty is selling new AVSA memberships. Each year she is generally in charge of the AVSA Promotional Display Table at the annual show of South Bay AVS. In 1975, through her efforts, the Society won the award that Edith

Peterson gave for the most new AVSA memberships sold at an Affiliate show. She has held many offices in her South Bay Society, including President, and is now the President of Northern California Council of African Violet Societies.

Mrs. Terrance R. (Sandra) Leary, 438 Brady Lane, Austin, TX 78746

Sandra has been an AVSA Director for the past three years; she has served on various committees, including the Membership and Promotion Committee. She is currently the AVSA Advertising Manager. Until her resignation in March, she was the General Chairman for the 1978 AVSA Convention

in Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Leary are moving to Florida. Gladys Hudnall will succeed Mrs. Leary as Austin convention chairman.

Mrs. Lucile J. Wasson, 1101 Frankford Ave., Panama City, FL 32401

Lucile has a special talent for creating the most unusual and beautiful Educational Exhibits. The one in the 1976 AVSA Convention at Atlanta was outstanding. Following the Convention, she displayed the Educational Exhibit in the Bicentennial International Flower Show at Miami, Florida, May 20-24. She has also exhibited in the National Council of State Garden Clubs as well as many local club shows.

NEED AWARDS FOR 1978 SHOW

Celine Chase
AVSA Awards Chairman

The AVSA Awards Committee is now receiving awards for the Austin Convention Show.

A big "Thank You" to AVSA members, affiliate chapters, state societies or councils, commercial growers and suppliers of materials used by African violet growers for your generous and active support for many years. For the happy people who have received your awards, I'm sure they thank you too.

Let's make the 1978 Convention a success too, by getting your awards to me by September 1, 1977. This gives time to meet the deadline to be published in the January AVM. I'm sure we all look forward to the January issue... we check the awards, convention happenings and then plan to attend and have fun.

The deadline for the souvenir book is January 1, 1978. No awards accepted after that.

There are a few things to keep in mind: the award must not present impractical problems for the judges and must be within the show schedule. It is not always possible to allocate an award to a specific class because many of our long term sponsors have given awards for certain classes, also some other person may have requested the class earlier.

Awards for special plants should be in early so that the exhibitor is aware in advance and has time to groom for the show.

The award may be some suitable item or cash. All items other than cash are to be delivered to the Awards Aide, Mrs. Julia Brittain, 311 Mill Stream, Houston, TX 77060, or you may bring them to the Convention. When advising me of your award, please specify whether you will bring it to the Convention or have it delivered to Mrs. Brittain.

Cash awards are to be paid by check made out to AVSA Convention Fund and mailed to Mrs. Richard A. Chase, Awards Chairman, 482 Rutherford Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061.

We thank all sponsors for their cooperation to make the Austin Show a success. See you in Austin, 1978.

NEW DEADLINE FOR LIFETIME JUDGES EXAM

The deadline for submitting exams has been changed to October 1. Questions will be ready for mailing mid-summer.

Send your request for questions NOW with a check for \$1, payable to AVSA, plus a LONG, STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918.

Judges making first application for lifetime certificate must send required evidence of eligibility. Refer to the *African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors*, page 100 or the November 1976 *African Violet Magazine*, page 68.

ORGANIC IN NATURE

"For my baby and young African violets plants, I use Seaweed by Science", says Mrs. Dale Andrews, 3830 Colina Lane, Waco, TX 76705. "It promotes strong root systems, gives leaves and plant in general a healthy appearance. Also if one should run across one that is dry and the leaves are limp - give it some Seaweed. I use 2 Tablespoons to a gallon. It is organic in nature, and very safe."

Two Missouri Women Tie for Top Honors at AVSA Convention/Show

Two Missouri growers tied for top awards at the 1977 AVSA convention/show held in St. Louis, MO. They were Mrs. Roger Drury of St. Genevieve and Mrs. Fred Steffen of St. Louis. Mrs. Steffen received the President's Award from Mrs. Edward A. Nelson of St. Louis for the most blue ribbons (46) and Mrs. Drury the Metropolitan St. Louis AVS Award for the second highest.

Mrs. Drury won the AVSA silver cup for the Best in Show with 'Coon Valley', a royal blue with strawberry leaves. 'Coon Valley' is an oldie among violets and started winning top honors nearly 20 years ago. Mrs. Drury's 'Coon Valley' also captured two Stim-U-Plant Awards, \$50 and a plaque and \$25 and a plaque, and the California Council of AV Societies Award of \$25. She also received the AVSA Award of Merit Rosette and \$15 for 'Margaret Rose', 2nd Best in Show.

'Coon Valley' was registered by Wilson Brothers on Nov. 27, 1957 and 'Margaret Rose' by Max Maas on May 20, 1976.

Mrs. Drury's other plants receiving awards were as follows: 'Tommie Lou', AVS of Greater New York, Inc., Award of \$25; 'Gotcha' and 'Margaret Rose', Indianapolis AVC \$15 and \$10 cash awards; 'Ann Slocumb', the Mary S. Garrity Award; 'Christmas Holly Supreme', the Celine Chase Award; and 'Brigadoon Sport', the AVS of Staten Island Award. Mrs. Drury also placed second in scoring the second highest number of blue ribbons in the design division.

Mrs. Steffen also received the New York City AVS silver award for sweepstakes in horticulture; the Union County Chapter of AVSA Award for best dish garden, and the Viking AVC Award for 2nd best design, "Scenic Gardens".

Mrs. Steffen's plants winning awards were as follows: 'Bicentennial Trail', Lyndon Lyon Award of \$25; 'Lovely Wasp', Violets After Five Award of \$20; and Mrs. Harold Baker's Award; 'Pixie Blue', Helen Van Zele Award of \$10; 'Pure Waters', Indianapolis AVC Award of \$10; 'Tiny Twilight Time', Helen Van Zele Award of \$10; 'Karen', the Ann Richardson Award; 'Wee One', the Rainbow AVC of St. Louis Award; and 'Tiny Blue', Mrs. Joan Laske Award.

Mrs. Mae A. Trost of Indianapolis, Ind., a consistent winner at the AVSA convention/shows took 10 top honors again this year.

Her 'Miriam Steel' received three awards, the

AVSA Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10; Granger Gardens Award of \$25; and the Stim-U-Plant Laboratories Award of \$25 and a plaque. Her 'Garnet Elf' won the Wisconsin Council of African Violet Clubs Award of \$25; and the First Austin AVS Award of \$10. Her other scoring plants were as follows: 'Superba', Stim-U-Plant Laboratories, Inc., Award of \$25 and plaque; 'Blue Fashionaire', Robert Hutton, Jr., Award of antique china; 'Frankie', the Rocky Potters AVC Award; 'Christmas Holly', Mrs. Warren Rosenbaum Award; and 'R. Barbara', the Celine Chase Award.

Tom E. Toms of Bossier City, LA came a long way to show but he captured eight top awards. He won the Gold Rosette for the AVSA Collection of 'Garnet Elf', 'Ballet Lisa' and 'Orion' and walked away with the TubeCraft Award, a complete Flor-aCart, for another AVSA Collection of 'Mary Morn', 'Tommie Lou' and 'Dixie Dandy'.

His other plants receiving awards were: 'Plum Crest', Sylvia Richardson Award of \$10; 'Lavender Delight', W. M. Plaster Award of \$10; 'Ruffled Red', Lower Connecticut Valley AVS Award of \$10; 'Top Dollar', Rienhardt's African Violets Award; 'Double Stateline 1895', Mrs. Daniel Dohm, Jr., Award; and 'Winter's Dream', Heart of Texas AVS Award.

Winning seven awards each were Mrs. T. C. Fritz of Kingsport, TN and Edward Bradford of Woodhaven, NY.

Mrs. Fritz took the Joanne Steffen Award for the best entry of "Down on the Levee", in the design division, the Granger Gardens Award of \$25 for 'Lavender Tempest', and the Tinari Greenhouse copper tray award for 'Poodle Top'. Her other plants receiving cash awards were: 'Christmas Holly', the Inner City AVS Award; 'Tennessee Misty Pink', the Tampa AVS Award; 'Tennessee Fluffy Ruffles', the San Francisco AVS Award; and 'Wild Flame', the Pied Piper AVC Award.

Bradford's trophies were won in the design division. He captured the Dixie Moonbeam AVS Award of Silver for sweepstakes in the design division with seven blue ribbons. He received the Nancy and Floretta Willets Award for the best arrangement. His other awards in the design division were as follows: William R. Smith 1st Annual Memorial Award, best entry, "Scenic Ozarks";

Edd Stretch Smith Award, best entry, "Historic St. Charles"; Eunice and Gene Thiel Award, best entry, "In a Japanese Garden," Patty Smith and Joan Laske Award, best entry, "On a Roller Coaster"; Marian Bell Award, 3rd best entry, "Art—Small Scale".

Mrs. H. L. Holt of St. Louis was winner of six awards, included among which was Tinari Greenhouse Award of a copper tray for 2nd best specimen plant of 'Ruth Carey'. Her other awards were in the design division as follows: Mrs. Charles McGrievy Award, best entry, "St. Louis Has It from A to Z"; Doris Loyet Award, 2nd best entry, "The Symphony"; Catherine Carlisle Award, 2nd best entry, "The Big Cat Country"; Ethel Mathis Award, 2nd best entry, dish gardens; Helen Van Zele Award, 2nd best artistic planting.

Four top awards each went to Mrs. R. E. Schroeder of Dwight, IL and to Diane Gribschaw of New Castle, IN. Mrs. Schroeder's honors included the Ann Riddle Award, best gesneriad, 'S. Wood Nymph'; the H. P. McVey Award, 2nd best entry, "Art—Small Scale"; the Roma Wilson Award, "1954 Birth of the Double Pink"; and the Barbara Edinger Award, 3rd best small arrangement.

Mrs. Gribschaw took the AVS of Philadelphia Award of \$25 for her AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Garnet Elf', 'Ballet Lisa', 'Orion'; the Indianapolis AVC Award, 'Lullaby'; the Gene Garner Award, 'King's Jewel Sport', and the Border Cities AVC of Detroit Award, 'Bold Lad.'

Two growers took three awards each in the design division. They were Mrs. Marilyn Bordelon of Matairie, LA, who won the Mrs. Edward A. Nelson Award for best entry, "Third Time Around", the Diane Peach Award for 2nd best arrangement, class 35B; and the Ester Brewer Award, 2nd best arrangement, classes 35 - 42; and Edna M. Kunz of St. Louis, who won two Mrs. W. F. Anderson Awards for best entry, "Art—Small Scale" and best entry for small arrangement and the Vicki and Susan Erman Award, best entry, "200 Years of Worship."

Roma Wilson of St. Louis was winner of the Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burton Award of antique china for 'Geneva Rose' and in the design division was winner of the Mrs. Jess Stern Award, best entry, "Caves of Missouri"; and the Mr. and Mrs. Victor Joseph Kunze Award, an original painting, for best artistic planting.

Would you believe it? Mrs. Chas. Gaines of St. Louis offered an award of \$10 for the best specimen plant, 'County Belle' — and she won it!

Jean and Jeanette Achauer placed entries in the design division and both won awards. Jean won

the Alma Janus Award for the best entry in "The Big Cat Country" and the Fleur de Lis AVC Award for the 2nd best entry, "On a Roller Coaster". Jeannine's honors were the Ella Johanning Award for the 2nd best entry, "St. Louis Has It from A to Z" and the Violet Stubblefield Award for 2nd best entry, "Third Time Around."

Five other growers captured two awards each. They were as follows: Mrs. O. L. Weiss of New York, NY, the Sandra M. Lex Award for best entry, "The Symphony" and the Adeline Krogman Award for best promotional exhibit; Mrs. Bernard Gill of Kansas City, MO, the Green Thumb AVC Award, and the Rocky Potters AVC Award, for best specimen and 2nd best specimen, 'Faith'; Mary Lou Terral of St. Louis, the St. Louis Judges' Council Award, best miniature, 'Little Delight', Gene Garner Award, 2nd best green edged, 'Poodle Top'; Mrs. Gene A. Thiel of Collinsville, MO, 2nd best single pink, 'Pink Lemonade', the Rainbow AVC of St. Louis Award, 2nd best mini, 'Lil Red Wagon', Mrs. M. Pozsgay of St. Louis, the Indianapolis AVC Award, 'Cabaret', and the Ann Richardson Award, 'My Darling'.

The Amethyst AVC Award for the 2nd best seedling fell to Jim Wright of Decatur, GA for 'Do's Jean', and the Celine Chase Award for the 2nd best promotional exhibit went to Linda Neumann of Royalton, OH. Jane Ward of Kansas City, MO won the AVS of Minnesota Award for 2nd best trailer, 'Mysterium'.

Among the miniature awards Mrs. Wayne Churchill of Rockport, ME won the Top Choice AVS Award for 'Tiny Blue' in an unusual container and the Edward Bradford Award for the 2nd best went to 'Pixie Blue', entered by Joan Laske of St. Louis. The Viva La Violets AVC Award for the best variegated foliage mini fell to Mrs. Frank Olsen of Madison, WI.

Other awards were as follows: The Viva La Violets Award, 'Night Magic', Mrs. Lydia Cramer, Wausau, WI; Gene Garner Award, 'Fashionaire', Mrs. Wm. Krogman, Brookfield, WI; the Mrs. L. F. Lidiak Award, 'Coral Pink', Edd Stretch Smith of St. Louis; Granger Gardens Award, 'Pink Granada', Mrs. Gilbert Arndt of Randolph, WI; The LeChateau AVC Award, 'Lil Critter', Mrs. Kenneth Hill of Independence, MO; Ann and Roy Dooley Award, 'Burma Ruby', John Moreau of St. Genevieve, MO; and the AVC of Greater Kansas City Award, 'Kansas City Chief', Mrs. Harold Proctor.

Other design division winners were: The Virginia Hamilton and Lois Russell Award, "1954 Birth of the Double Pink", best entry, Mrs. Dana Gipson, St. Louis; the Irene Reinhold Award, "Soulard Market", Fran Russom, St. Louis; the

Mrs. Dana Gipson Award, "Soulard Market", Mrs. Wm. Janus, St. Louis.

Species also had their inning with Mrs. Mary Mahen winning the Mabel and Glenn Hudson Award with 'S. Diplotricha' for best specimen plant; and Peggy McClure of St. Louis capturing the AVS of Minnesota Award for 'House of Amani'.

Lyon, Swift's Have New Introductions

Two plants hybridized by Lyndon M. Lyon of Dolgeville, NY captured the awards for the best and 2nd best new introductions at the 31st annual convention/show held in St. Louis, MO. 'Pink N' Ink' was winner of the best introduction AVSA award and 'Dyn-O-Mite' received the Helen Van Zele Award for the 2nd best introduction.

"Sweet Violet" won for Swift's Violets of Dallas the Helen Van Zele Award for the 3rd best introduction. Swift's was also awarded the New York State AVS Award for best horticultural perfection.

The Win Albright Memorial Award went to Irene Fredette of Orange, CT for the best seedling, 'Royal Hussy'. 'Mark' by the Hilton Dahlia Farms of Springfield, NJ was judged the second best seedling.

OUTSTANDING ARTICLES ARE GIVEN AWARDS

On the recommendation of the Publications Committee, AVSA Certificates of Appreciation were awarded for outstanding articles during the past year in the *AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE* to the following authors:

Miss Sandra Lex, Toronto, Canada, for her article "Diz-Dizbudding" in the November magazine.

Emory E. Leland, Seattle, WA, for his review "Foliar Feeding African Violets Controversy or Serendipity" in the June magazine.

Peter C. Bilkey, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, for his photographs and research report "Tissue Culturing African Violets" presented in three parts beginning in the January magazine.

Mrs. Lahla E. Yakel, Los Altos, CA, for the pictures and drawings with her article, "Why Not Start a Junior African Violet Club?" in the September magazine.

Mrs. Christine D. Leppard, Rochester, MI for pictures and suggestions in "Educational Tables—What They're All About" in the January magazine.

These awards were presented by Publications Chairman, Mrs. W. F. Anderson, at the annual AVSA convention/show in St. Louis, MO.

Awards were also offered for other gesneriads with Mrs. Alvin Whitfield of Dallas, TX winning the Mrs. Percy F. Crane award with 'E. Cleopatra'; Mrs. Clyde Bridges of Springfield, IL receiving the Normandy AVC Award for 'S. Frilled Wood Nymph'; and Trudy Klundt of Brookfield, WI getting the Mrs. Percy F. Crane Award for 'Columnea Cornellian'.

Buell's Greenhouses of Eastford, CT, won the antique china offered by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burton of Old Saybrook, CT, for the best specimen plant 'Pure Innocence.'

Tinari Greenhouses of Huntingdon Valley, PA won five awards and also Jimmy Watson's silver for sweepstakes of 23 blue ribbons. The awards included the Helene Galpin Memorial Award for the best specimen plant, 'Helene'; two Crestwood Violetry Awards of silver for the best specimen plant, single blossom, 'Pink Philly' and for the best geneva edged, 'Wild Flame'; the Rienhardt Award for the best 'Nancy Reagan'; and the Helen Van Zele Award for the 2nd best seedling.

BEST COMMERCIAL TABLES GET AWARDS

Four awards were presented Commercial members for their display tables at the AVS convention/show in St. Louis.

Swift's African Violets of Dallas, TX received the AVSA silver bowl for the best commercial display table with 150 points.

Second best, the AVSA silver tray, went to Lyndon Lyon of Dolgeville, NY, with 145 points and third best to Buell's Greenhouse of Eastford, CT. The House of Violets of Camden, AR with 109 points received the AVSA Honorable Mention Award and the Gene Garner cash award for the 4th best display table.

AWARDS GIVEN FOR NEWSLETTERS

The AVSA Blue Rosette went to Emory Leland of Seattle, WA, editor of "Blossoms", for the best newsletter, 16 pages or less; and the Red Rosette for the second best newsletter, 16 pages or less, was awarded Mrs. Haradell Downing of Oxnard, CA.

Mrs. Nelson Hopper, of Latham, NY, editor of the Empire Magazine, received the AVSA Blue Rosette for the best newsletter, more than 16 pages; and the Red Rosette went to Olga MacLean of Norwood, MA, editor of "Ye Bay Stater".

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CANDY DANDY —(New from Lyon) Striking red edges on full double white flowers. Beautiful deep green holly foliage. Deliciously different.	No. 810	\$2.49
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SPARKY —(New from Lyon) Deep purplish, blue flowers streaked with white. A dark leaved semi-mini plant.	No. 811	\$2.49
WHITE ELF —Lots of highly frilled pure white blooms against wavy foliage.	No. 509	\$2.49
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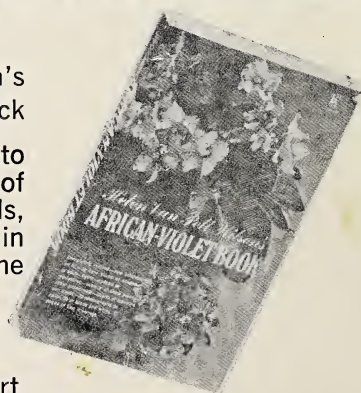


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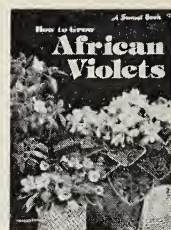
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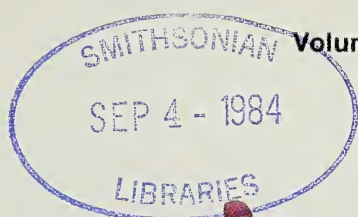
MAGAZINE

Volume 30

Number 4

September, 1977

PART I OF II PARTS



STRICTLY BUSINESS - - YOUR BUSINESS

A TABLE OF INFORMATION TO USE IN CONDUCTING YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO INSURE GOOD SERVICE.

ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS, IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM
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BYLAWS: See September issue.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Albert Buell, Buell's Greenhouses, Box 218, Eastford, CN 06242

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS: See list in November issue.

CONVENTION:

AWARDS: See January issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061

PROGRAM: See March issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson, R. R. 1, Box 70, Tavares, FL 32778

SCHEDULE: See January issue.

TIME AND PLACE: If your club or a group of clubs would like to sponsor a national convention in your area, write to Mrs. H. Harold Baker, 2182 Stanford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

CULTURE FOLDERS: Free from AVSA office, for distribution at shows or by commercial members with plants. Membership application included.

CUMULATIVE INDEX: Write AVSA Office.

EDITOR: Mrs. Grace Foote, 211 Allien Pl., Port Arthur, TX 77640

HONOR ROLL: See June issue.

JUDGES: See November issue Judges and Teachers list.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For information on holding a school or to become a qualified judge, write to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918

LIBRARY: See June issue for lists of slide programs and packets available from AVSA Library. Order from AVSA office. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate for library, write Harvey Stone, 51 Peach Highlands, Marblehead, MA 01945

LIFE MEMBERS: See June issue for list.

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ARTICLES: Send to Editor.

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SUPPLEMENT: Send any correction and/or description of new cultivar with hybridizer's name to Plant Registration Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP: Send new or renewal membership to AVSA Treasurer, AVSA office. Make check payable to AVSA. Life - \$100; Commercial - \$15; Individual - \$6; Affiliate Chapter - \$6; Affiliate Council, State or Region - \$15. **FOR AFFILIATE, GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:** Name of chapter or council; President's name and address; address to which magazine is to be sent; name of town considered home town of chapter.

APPLICATIONS AND BROCHURES: Free from AVSA office. Please state quantity required. Use for show, commercial sales room or wherever memberships may be solicited.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION: Send your ideas, offers to help or requests for assistance in this work to Mrs. Harold Rienhardt, 4463 W. Seneca Tpk., Syracuse, NY 13215

MINIATURE AND SEMIMINIATURE LIST: \$2.00 Mrs. Sidney Bogin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach, NY 11561

MINUTES: See September issue.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: See Jan. issue.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES: See June issue.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. H. N. Hansen, 708 Wyndale Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, 4605 NW 45th St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319 is available to answer parliamentary questions from affiliates. (Stamped self-addressed envelope must be enclosed for reply).

PLANT REGISTRATION: Mrs. Fred Tretter, 4988 Schollmeyer Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109

QUESTION BOX: Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, 19006

RESEARCH: Send suggested subjects for scientific research or names of interested qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

SHOWS & JUDGES RULES: See September issue.

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African Violet

MAGAZINE

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September, 1977

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Please enroll me as a member of African Violet Society of America, Inc. My dues are enclosed. Memberships are defined below. Membership year March 1 to February 28 includes five issues of THE AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE beginning with the June issue, followed by September, November, January and March issues.

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COVER PAGE

Lyndon Lyon's 1977 introduction, 'Dyn-O-Mite', first displayed at the AVSA Convention/Show in St. Louis, Mo is pictured on our cover page. 'Dyn-O-Mite' is a brand new seedling which explodes with very deep red semidouble blossoms on plain foliage. (Photo by Frank Burton)

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83. Stand-Bye — Grow with confidence
70. Stim-U-Plant — Plant food, soil conditioners, sprays
81. Sugar Beach Violetry — Leading varieties
78. Sunset Gardens — Leaves, rooted clumps, plants—Miniature and standard
- BACK COVER — Tinari Greenhouses — Violet Venture for Fall '77
73. Tingle's — Leaves, gift plants, starter plants
80. Tamaro African Violets — African violets and supplies
76. TubeCraft — Enjoy a FloraCart
83. Howard Utz — Utz' new varieties
88. Valley Violets — Most popular varieties
73. Violet Buds & Blossoms — New in Chattanooga
73. Violet Fantasia — Newest varieties
77. The Violet House
84. The Violet Room — Green Gold Soilwash
80. Violet Madness — Starter and blooming plants
71. Violet Window — African violet leaves
71. Violets Atlanta — Fall Fashions
73. Violets by Marv — Starter plants
86. Violets Et Cetera — Plant communicator; Seal and Grow
72. Volkhart's — African violets and espicias
74. Volkmann's — Reservoir wick pots
87. The Walkers — AV Supplies, pesticides, pots
76. White Cloud Farm — African violets
72. Wood's African Violets — Fresh cut leaves, rooted cuttings, gesneriads
76. Mildred V. Woods — Fresh cut African violet leaves
85. Worl of Violets — Blooming plants and starter plants

EDITOR'S NOTE: These are your advertisers who help the magazine. Please support them and when you write them for supplies, please mention The African Violet Magazine.

Letter From The AVSA President



During the summer when the pace was less frenzied, it was pleasant to reminisce over the recent St. Louis convention. What a week that was! If you enjoyed your visit as much as we enjoyed being your hosts, then all is well.

The show was the largest in AVSA's history, with approximately 800 spectacular entries in horticulture, plus 40-odd lovely design entries. And, who could forget that dazzling display of New Introductions on the Commercial sales tables? What good does it do to tell yourself firmly before leaving home that you aren't going to buy a lot of plants because you simply do not have room for more . . . those famous last words!

But now it is September and time to pick up the usual fall schedules with renewed vitality and enthusiasm. I'm sure you will let no opportunity slip by to promote AVSA. Have you noticed that our beautiful magazine has grown again — that it now has 88 pages instead of 80? Come on, let's do a little bragging, which reminds me of a favorite remark of one of my friends - "For he who tooteth not his own horn, I say, it shall not be tooted!"

Convention week is not all "Fun and Games" for your hard-working Board of Directors. They spend many long hours reviewing and updating our various programs in an effort to provide you with the most helpful information and service possible. One of the problems they were concerned about was the difficulty some of our Affiliates have experienced in obtaining slide programs from the Library. After careful consideration it was voted to add an additional employee to the Knoxville office force, whose duty will be supervising the Library schedule. Before mailing a program and on its return, it will be checked to see that all slides listed in the program are present; also that legible commentary sheets accompany the slides. As I've mentioned in a previous letter, you, too, have a responsibility in seeing that the slides are returned to Knoxville IMMEDIATELY after use, or forwarded to another Affiliate if so instructed in the slide box. Your failure to cooperate means some other group is going to be disappointed.

Another decision made at the St. Louis meeting was to move the STRICTLY BUSINESS - YOUR BUSINESS page to the inside front cover. It seems many of you have been unaware there was such a page in the magazine, judging by the questions asked needlessly, as the answers may be found on this page. Now it has been placed right as you open your magazine, so you can hardly miss it.

Perhaps you live in an area where there are no AVSA Affiliates and you would like to form a club but don't know how to go about it. A letter to Mrs. Wayne W. Schroeder, Affiliate Chairman, at 1739 N. 74th Ct., Elmwood Park, Illinois 60635,

will bring you all necessary information and help. One of the greatest pleasures derived from a hobby is the association with like-minded enthusiasts. So far as our hobby goes, if you are not part of a group meeting regularly to discuss all phases of violet propagation and culture, you are missing half of the fun.

Sincerely,

Melva

\$1,000 Grant For Research

A \$1,000 grant for African violet research work at the University of Wisconsin was voted by the AVSA Board at the St. Louis convention and will go toward a research project undertaken by Dr. Brent H. McCown, assistant professor, and Peter C. Bilkey. The research will deal with the adaptation of microculture technology of *Saintpaulia* improvement and production.

The grant was made on recommendation of the AVSA Research committee, comprised of Frank Tinari, chairman, Hugh Eyerdom, Lyndon Lyon, Henry Peterson and Jack Swift.

Tinari told of various projects now under way by Dr. Marc Cathey, Chief Ornamentals Laboratory, US Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, MA, the Penn State genetic project, and the Ohio State Project.

Dr. Cathey is now doing research on lighting of various types and intensities for African violets.

At Penn State mutations are being studied, with seeds, species, miniature types, trailers and other hybrids being used. Dr. Richard Craig heads this project.

The Ohio State project deals with the control of the Pritchard soil mealy bug by the chemical treatment of plants. "Through foliar treatment *Saintpaulia* will tolerate various chemicals," according to Dr. Richard K. Lindquist, department of Entomology, who heads this project. "Perhaps with numerous proper tests and dosages done at laboratory level, this pest can be controlled through foliar intake", he added.

The project will be started at the Ohio State University and later transferred to Penn State University under the direction of Dr. Paul Heller, entomologist.

One hundred three-inch plants have been supplied to Ohio State University for preliminary inoculation and tests. No monetary fee has been arrived at at this time. Plants were purchased from the Granger Gardens at the cost of \$141.25 and

sent to Ohio State University research center for their tests.

"Dr. Paul Heller is a well-known entomologist and heads this department at Penn State. Both he and Dr. Lindquist are well-acquainted with African violets and understand the seriousness of our problems and we are in great hopes that the society can benefit from their project," Tinari concluded.

Candidates' Names Needed

Whom Do You Know?

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Nominating Committee Chairman
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561

The Nominating Committee of AVSA selects five directors annually from our 25,000 plus members and tries to choose candidates from different geographical areas. Since it is impossible for committee members to be personally acquainted with all AVSA members, we have decided to appeal to you, the membership.

We are interested in people who are enthusiastic, active members of a club or clubs, who would be in a position to attend conventions. Perhaps places where there are not too many clubs or AVSA members. We do not have adequate representation from the middle and northwest states.

If you know people who might fill the bill, people with imagination, verve and dedication, who would be an asset to AVSA, please drop me a line with their name and address telling me what you know about them and why you suggest them.

Adaptation of Microculture Technology To Saintpaulia Improvement, Production

Dr. Brent H. McCown and Peter C. Bilkey

*Department of Horticulture
University of Wisconsin, WI 53706*

(ED. NOTE: At the AVSA Convention in St. Louis, MO a \$1,000 grant was made to the University of Wisconsin to further the work being done on African violets)

The horticultural industry is entering a period of rapid and unprecedented change. Spurred by a renewed interest in plants by the general populace and by the resultant increase in demand for a wide variety of plant materials, modern and innovative methods of plant production and merchandising are permeating the industry. High yield nursery practices, automated and computerized greenhouse production, and mass-market merchandising are examples of these changes. Indeed, the horticultural industry of the year 2000 will little resemble the one familiar to us today.

Among the advances in technology needed to support these changes are methodologies for developing new cultivars and their subsequent propagation. Microculture, the multiplication and growth of plant selections under sterile, laboratory-like conditions, may be highly useful in this regard. Current research has clearly shown that plants, unlike most animal counterparts, possess the ability to regenerate missing organs. In the extreme, many living plant cells have the potential to regenerate the total plant if given the proper environmental and nutritional conditions.

Microculture of plants has the following applications to the horticulture industry:

1. Mass propagation of selected clones. When the more conventional techniques of propagation possess inherent practical problems, multiplication of plants in "test tube" environments may be a highly useful and economical solution. This is particularly true for normally difficult-to-propagate species and for the rapid increase of newly developed cultivars. Such techniques are called micropropagation and include cell, organ and shoot-tip cultures (mericloning).
2. Elimination of disease organisms. Vegetative propagation has always been accompanied by the probability of disease, particularly as regards viruses, contaminating the plant material and being carried along in the propagation process. In many cases, microculture techniques combined with heat and chemical treatments can be used to free such materials of these diseases.

3. Recovery of normally lethal products of sexual reproduction. Many crosses of potentially desirable plants are prohibited by genetic factors, resulting in premature death of the newly formed embryo before seed maturation. Such embryos can be cultured in the laboratory and the resultant hybrid secured. This technique is called embryo culture.

4. Generation of new genetic hybrids. Due to genetic and/or morphological problems, many crosses are unsuccessful using conventional methods. This is especially true when crosses are attempted between species, genera, and families. However, the potential of uniting the genetic material from two plants grown in culture has recently been realized. Indeed, fusions of plant with animal cells have been reported. This technique has been called asexual hybridization to distinguish it from the sexual process of fusion of gametes and subsequent seed production.

Such applications of microculture are well beyond the laboratory test phase and a number of horticultural industries have embraced this new technology. Mericloning of orchids was one of the earliest uses of microculture. Small pieces of tissue from shoots (rhizome tips or pseudobulbs) can be used to multiply an orchid plant under aseptic conditions. Before micropropagation, growers were lucky to produce more than half-a-dozen orchid plants each year from a prized hybrid. Now literally thousands of genetically identical plants can be produced from a single individual in a year's time. In addition, total costs have been reduced, uniformity of the final product has been increased and the timing of the cut flower crop has been improved.

Micropropagation techniques have also been applied in the production of ferns, especially the infertile and very popular cultivars of Boston fern. With the initial help of University researchers, growers now are able to propagate 10,000 Boston ferns from a single runner tip not more than one inch long. With only 2,100 sq. ft. of shelf space in a building, 50,000 fern plants can be produced monthly and used in conventional production

facilities.

Wholesale plant propagators such as Yoder Brothers have utilized microculture of plants to obtain disease-free stock. Such techniques have been used to produce virus-free stock of flowers (mums, carnation, geraniums), fruits (strawberries, raspberries), vegetables (potatoes), and forest trees (poplar).

Unlike the above applications, asexual hybridization has yet to be used to produce a product useful to man. However, the potential is exciting. In the laboratory, fusions of a number of diverse species have been made. However complete plants have not yet been generated.

Application of Microculture to Saintpaulia

We can visualize two important applications of microculture techniques to the production of *Saintpaulia*.

Mass Propagation

The potential of micropropagation in the production of African violets has already been demonstrated. A conservative estimate is that 20,000 African violet plants can be produced from a single leaf cutting. The application of this technology can have a number of benefits to the commercial industry:

1. New cultivars can be propagated and marketed within a year of the decision to produce them.
2. Expensive greenhouse space will not be needed for stock plants or propagation benches and can be used to directly produce saleable stock.
3. Overall quality can be improved as uniformity and quality are more easily controlled with micropropagation techniques than with conventional leaf cuttings.

Asexual hybridization

Utilization of the techniques of asexual hybridization for African violets may revolutionize violet breeding. In particular, genes for flower colors such as yellow, orange, and true red can be introduced from other genera in the Gesneriaceae. Flower fragrance may also be introduced, thus offering a whole new dimension to the popular African violet.

Traditional sexual hybridization procedures are limited in their ability to work with such genetic material. Not only are there strong genetic inhibitions to intergeneric crosses (such as incompatibility and ploidy differences), but differences in flower morphology may prevent a successful cross. Attempting to produce desirable traits by mutation (such as by X-ray) is an extreme long-shot, as most mutations are deleterious and the resultant outcome cannot be controlled.

Proposed Research Program

We, at the Department of Horticulture, Univer-

sity of Wisconsin, wish to investigate the application of mass micropropagation techniques to the African violet industry and the use of asexual hybridization as a breeding technique to introduce new flower colors (yellow, orange, and true red) into the genus *Saintpaulia*.

(ED. NOTE: This is the first of two articles to appear in the African Violet Magazine. The second article will be published in the November 1977 issue).

Additional Life Members Announced

More Life Members! On March 1, President Melva Nelson announced that the Life Membership List had reached the 200 mark!

Since that time Mrs. Nelson has welcomed into membership the following:

Erica Hahn, 28 Presidents' Pl., Kingston, NY 12401; Mrs. Alan E. Sonnanstine, 3757 Vassar, Dearborn, MI 48124; Robert Halperin, 72 Sharpe Rd., Newton, MA 02159; Lois M. Hall, 4056 W. Palmer, Chicago, IL 60639; Bertha M. Pfouts, Rt. 4, Adrian, MI 49221; Mrs. Jean Fitch, 1263 Rays Rd., Stone Mtn. GA 30083; Mrs. Frank M. Seay, RD 1, Lee Lane, Tunkhannock, PA 18657; Mrs. M. C. Vance, 2761 Lakewood Dr., Columbus, OH 43229; Robert M. Phipps, Medical Dept. HMC USN US NAV/SEC/GRU/ACT FPO, New York 09518; Roger K. Wedel, 5151 S. 34th St., Kalamazoo, MI 49001; Steven W. Dalrymple, 250 Center Grove Rd., Randolph, NJ 07801; Mrs. Eugene W. Fike, Rt. 3, Box 19-B, Hempstead, TX 77445; Mrs. Etsuko Ohno, 2-33-4-1210 Takashimadaira, Itabashi-Ku Tokyo, Japan; Mrs. Terrance R. Leary, 438 Brady Ln., Austin, TX 78746; Mrs. H. Steven Johnson, 741 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32804; Doris M. Brownlie, 600 Silvercreek Blvd. No. 80, Mississauga, Ont. Canada L5A-2B4; Mrs. Dale Kinley, P. O. Box 622, Sheridan, WY 82801; Mrs. Bernard F. Gill, 1015 Greenway Ter. Kansas City, MO 64113; Miss Nell Sue Tyson, 2030 E. Amherst Ave., Denver, CO 80210; Mrs. Roberta J. Close, 8333 W. Pochontas, Tampa, FL 33615; Raymond A. Nowowieski, 5339 Glen Arm Rd., Glen Arm, MD 21057; James M. Loya, 2400 N. Dustin, No. 203, Farmington, NM 87401.

If you have articles, pictures or slides to be printed in the Magazine, send them to the Editor, NOT to the Knoxville office!

REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

(NOTE TO REGISTRANTS: The Editor would like to use color slides of your newly registered violets in the Magazine. Use only light backgrounds. Dark slides cannot be reproduced. Send original color slides to Editor with name of plant and name of hybridizer.)

The following registrations have been received during the period from February 28, 1977 through May 31, 1977.

BLEEDING HEART (3115) WRC 345 s-dc S 3/9/77

Mrs. P. W. Kiesling, 475 Madison St., Denver, CO 80206

LITTLE SOFTIE (3116) L-PX 29 sfc S 3/24/77

Mrs. L. E. Strange, 1419 Harper St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

SISTER ANCILLA (3117) PX 2 s S 4/1/77

George Crouchet, 110th St., Inglewood, CA 90303

TENNESSEE WALTZ (3118) D-BW-E 23 sfc S 4/8/77

Mrs. T. C. Fritz, 4626 Harbor City, Kingsport, TN 37664

BRIGHT EYED DONNA (3119) D-PX 3 s S 4/13/77

C. D. Martin, 14300 Bowman Ct., Woodbridge, VA 22193

GRANDDAD (3120) D-BW-E 57 d S-M 4/14/77

Wanda McPeters, 1802 Chama, Hobbs, NM 88240

BALLERINA (3121) PX 5 d S 4/20/77

Vincent Ballirano, 110 Grandview Ave., Johnston, RI 02919

ALTON DANDY (3122) P 39 d S 4/20/77

Mary - Ray Violets, 5007 Terry Dr., Alton, IL 62002

BIG SUE (3123) V 38 s-dc S 5/2/77

Mrs. C. S. Smith, 1403 St. Vincent St., Gonzales, TX 78629

CASTLE'S PINK MEASURE (3124) M-P 2 d S 5/9/77

CASTLE'S RED STONE (3125) D-R s-d S 5/9/77

CASTLE'S RUSTIC CHARM (3126) D-R 5 df S 5/9/77

Verne C. Fuhlrodt, 614 Castle Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80904

JANEY BRISCOE (3127) PX 238 d S 5/18/77

Jodi Davis, 2818 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78705

FATIMA (3128) L-POC 2 sf S 5/20/77

GARY (3129) D-VR 5 df S 5/20/77

HALF MOON BAY (3130) M-PX s-df S 5/20/77

TERESA (3131) WP 2 d S 5/20/77

Gary R. Beck, 539 Spindrift Way, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

CARLA (3132) D-P 5 d S 5/27/77

CECELIA (3133) BX 2 d S 5/27/77

FORTY-NINE TRAIL (3134) B 2 d S 5/27/77

SARITA (3135) P 23 d S-M 5/27/77

HAMMOND'S TERRY LYNN (3136) L-P 23 d S 5/27/77

WAVECREST (3137) BW-E 5 df S 5/27/77

CONCHITA (3138) PX 38 s M 5/27/77

MONTEREY SUNSET (3139) R 2 d S 5/27/77

Everett & Lois Hammond, 3917 Copeland Lane, Fremont, CA 94528

FIRE CHIEF (3140) R-PG-E 3 s-d L 5/27/77

FREEDOM SONG (3141) D-VW-E 3 d L 5/27/77

NEW DAWN (3142) L-P 2 d S 5/27/77

David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Independence, MO 64051

ARLINGTONAIRE (3143) L-OX 259 s-d L 5/27/77

BETCHA (3144) WR-E 5 d S 5/27/77

LUSH BLUSH (3145) M-PX 23 s-d L 5/27/77
RALPH REED (3146) OW-E 59 s-d L 5/27/77
SOUTHLAND JUNGLE (3147) OX 5 s-d L 5/27/77

VIOLET TINT (3148) L-OV-E 25 s-d L 5/27/77

WHISPER ROSE (3149) R-P 23 d L 5/27/77
Swift's AV, P. O. Box 28012, Dallas, TX 75228

BLUEBERRY FROST (3150) BW-E 3 d S 5/28/77

C. Wilson, 9057 Oak St., Bellflower, CA 90706

CALIFORNIA (3151) V 3 s S-M 6/2/77

COLORADO (3152) V-R 3 sf S 6/2/77

DELAWARE (3153) V-R sc S-M 6/2/77

FLORIDA (3154) MV 3 s S 6/2/77

GEORGIA (3155) P 2 s S 6/2/77

MARYLAND (3156) M-B 3 s-dc S 6/2/77

NEW JERSEY (3157) P 3 sf S 6/2/77

NEW YORK (3158) D-V-B 3 sc S 6/2/77

PENNSYLVANIA (3159) V-R 3 s-dc S 6/2/77

VIRGINIA (3160) P 3 sf S 6/22/77

Reinhold Holtkamp, Wertherstr, 112 4294 Is-
selburg, Germany

RESERVATIONS

The following reservations have been received
during the same period as above.

DENVER JO * FIRST EDITION * DENVER
DELIGHT 3/7/77 Ella Kiesling, 475 Madison St.,
Denver, CO 80206

BURGUNDY ROSE * RAG DOLL * JOYCE *
JUNGLE JEWEL * DOWN HOME * MISS AUS-
TIN * BARTON BEAUTY * SILVER SPURS *
MAJOR BOB * SUGAR ROSE * TEXAS DI-
ANNE * SPRING THING * DRISKILL * RHINE-
STONE COWGIRL * LIZ * TEXAS DJ * CIRCLE
J * COUNTRY GINGHAM * FRANCES * IN-
DIAN PAINT BRUSH 5/18/77 Jodi Davis, 2818
Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78705

TINY TWILIGHT TIME * WEE LADDIE *
LITTLE MISS MUFFET * TWINKLE LITTLE
STAR * LITTLE SAINT LOUIE * PIXIE WHITE
* HUMPTY DUMPTY * FIRE FIGHTER 4/22/77
Joann Steffen, 4434 Alaska St., St. Louis, MO
63111

SHOW ME SURPRISE * SHOW ME BLUE *
GARDEN PARTY * AFTERNOON DELIGHT
5/8/77 David Buttram, P. O. Box 193, Indepen-
dence, MO 64051

DO'S JEAN * DO'S JUDY LYNN * DO'S PAT
PLUNKETT * DO'S JANET LEE * DO'S REALI-
DO 5/18/77 Violets Galore of GA, 3482 Misty
Valley Rd., Decatur, GA 30032

OBSESSION * NAUGHTY NOTION *
SCRUMPTIOUS * CUMULUS * THIRD DIMEN-
SION * RICHMOND RED * KAMLOOPS QUEEN
* QUEST * HOMESTEAD * WHITE DELIGHT *
RENDEZVOUS * MUMBO JUMBO * NIGHT-
INGALE * SCINTILLATION * PICCOLO PETE *
MOONSTRUCK * PINK PICOT * KLONDIKE
TRAIL * LONESOME TRAIL * ROYAL TRAIL
* BIT OF FLUFF * AFTERGLOW * HINTA
PINK * SILVER SENSATION * SAUCY SUE *
LANGLEY LACE * BURNABY BLUE * PINK
PATTER * POTPOURRI * SILVER STREAK *
BLUE n' YOU * SWEET BOY * VANCOUVER
DEBUT * PENDICTION PINK * MOONSTONE *
HEARTSTRINGS * MOTIVATION *
DOROTHY'S DREAM * SHIVON * THINLINE *
WINDSOR WHITE * MCKENZIE TRAIL * CUT-
UP * VICTORIA VI XEN * PEACH TREAT *
HOMESPUN * SORCERY 5/13/77 Simpson's AV,
6715 Randolph Ave., Burnaby B.C. V5H 3W3

COTTON BOWL * CAT'S MEOW 5/27/77
Swift's AV, P. O. Box 28012, Dallas, TX.

MOODY BLUES 5/27/77 David Buttram, P. O.
Box 193, Independence, MO

EDITH TROTTER 5/29/77 Seth Paul, 701
Hope St., Bristol, RI 02809

RENEWALS

PINK AGLOW * AUTUMN DREAM * BE-
FORE DAWN * FIRE CHIEF * FREEDOM
SONG * MISTY SUNRISE * NEW DAWN Re-
newed by David Buttram 5/7/77

RELEASES

(Name reservations which have expired)

BLUE MARINER * POINT TAKER * BRIGHT
EYED DONNA * OUTTA SIGHT * BIG MACK *
TEXAS STORM * CHERYL'S DELIGHT * BET-
TYE CROWELL * BIT O' CHEER.

CORRECTIONS

In the MVL No. 3 DELBY is registered as 258,
It should be 2581.

LITTLE JIM is listed as blue. It should be pink.
TOMMY'S SON should be spelled TOMMIE'S
SON.

CHRISTINA should be spelled *BALLET CRISTINA*

No. 2877 is listed as *FIRST SNOW*. It should be *FIRST SHOW*.

No. 3018 was listed as *TENNESSEE MIST*. It should be *TENNESSEE PINK MIST*.

JET SET is listed as fuchsia. It should be a double blue.

MYTIE MITE should be a standard.

BLUE MONDAY is listed as a single. It should be a semidouble.

BOLD ADVANCE and *CANDY DANDY* have been changed to standard.

CINDY TRINKET should be *CANDY TRINKET*.

SCHULZ should be *BERGEN HILDA SCHULZE TIPTOE* (Lyon) should be double blue on tiny glossy foliage; miniature.

SPATZI and *ANDREW IAN* should be standard.

LITTLE LOU should be a miniature.

SPARKY (Lyon) should be girl foliage.

SUGAR BEAR should be a semidouble.

TINY TIM should be a very tiny miniature.

LITTLE DELIGHT should be holly foliage.

DENIM BLUE should be miniature.

Please make these corrections in your Master Variety List No. 3 and your March 77 registration list.



COMING EVENTS

(Please send notices of "Coming Events" directly to the Editor; not to the Knoxville office. See inside cover (Strictly Business — Your Business) for deadlines.)

SEPT. 16-17 — The Wausau AVC's fall show/sale will be held at the Crossroads Shopping Center, Hwys. 29 and 51 West in Wausau, WI. Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sept. 17, 1-5 p.m. Phyllis Holzen, president.

OCT. 1 — Alamo AVS of San Antonio to hold annual fall show/display, "Autumn Violet Fest", at Wonderland Shopping Center, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mrs. Hazel Fritsch, show chairman; Mrs. Betty Cook, co-chairman.

OCT. 1 — The Friendly AVC of Norwood, MA to hold its annual show at Emanuel Lutheran Church, 24 Berwick Road, Norwood, Theme, "A Salute to Friendly's 20th Birthday". 1-6 p.m. Admission free. Show chairman, Mrs. Olga MacLean.

OCT. 1-2 — New Jersey Council of AV Clubs to hold 17th annual Standard Show at Quakerbridge Mall, Rt. 1,

Lawrenceville (Princeton), NJ. Sept. 30, registration, 1-8 p.m., open to all members of affiliate NJ clubs. Admission free. Oct. 1-2, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Mrs. Edward Remmer, chairman; Edward Bradford, co-chairman. Plant sale table to feature Max Maas introductions.

OCT. 6-9 — Wisconsin Council of AV Clubs to hold show/plant sale "Wisconsin Violets on Parade" at Brookfield Square Shopping Center Mall, 95 N. Moorland Road, Brookfield, WI. Bette Wink, show chairman. Exhibits, educational demonstrations and plant sales. Open to public during Mall hours.

OCT. 7-8 — The First AVS of San Antonio, TX will hold a fall show, "Texas Violets", in the East Court of the North Star Mall on Loop 410. Hours will be 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Margaret Kerr, show chairman; Lillian Gravis, co-chairman; Alice Wiesner, president.

OCT. 14-15 — Top Choice AVS to hold annual fall show/plant sale at the Pierremont Mall in Shreveport, LA. Mrs. W. M. Plaster, president.

OCT. 15-16 — Levittown AVS of Long Island to hold first annual show, "Melody of Violets", at American Legion Hall, 3484 Park Avenue, Wantagh, NY. Oct. 15, 2-8 p.m.; Oct. 16, 1-6 p.m. Mrs. Paul Buckley and Mrs. Henry Hiltzman, show chairmen.

OCT. 19-29 — Jacksonville (FL) AVS to hold judged exhibit and plant sale in connection with Greater Jacksonville (FL) Fair in Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Weekdays, 5-11 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun. 1:30-10 p.m. Admission \$1.50.

OCT. 21 - 22 — Belles and Beaux AVS' show at Main Library, 7711 Goodwood Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA.

OCT. 22-23 First Austin AVS' annual fall display/sale at Austin Area Garden Center, Zilker Park, Austin, TX, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Open to public. Admission free. D. J. Lidiak, show chairman; Frances Young, president.

MAR. 29-APRIL 1, 1978 — Dixie AVS' annual convention in Montgomery, AL. "Come on down and join the fun," Elizabeth Fuller, convention chairman, says.

APRIL 1-2, 1978 — Metropolitan AVS of Peoria, IL to hold judged show at Lakeview Center in Peoria, marking its 25th anniversary. Thelma Bourget, club president. Hazel Parkin and Judy Brodbeck, publicity committee.

AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE BACK ISSUES

Write for a list of those available. Reduced rates in effect. Complete your set now. AVSA office, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901.

Are You A Certified Pesticide Applicator?

*Dr. Thomas B. McKneely
6135 Tompkins Drive
McLean, Virginia 22101*

If you are not a "certified pesticide applicator" you will not be able to purchase your favorite pesticide preparation after October 21, 1977, if that preparation is on the "restricted" list. On this date the provisions of the Federal Pesticide law passed by Congress in 1972 become effective nationwide. The Federal agency responsible for administration of the law is the U. S. Environmental Protection Administration (EPA). Each State is required to have a plan setting forth the way in which the State will carry out the provisions of the Federal law. This includes, among other things, the method of certifying two classes of pesticide applicators which are "private applicators" and "commercial applicators". Manufacturers of "restricted" pesticides may not ship their pesticide products into a State which does not have an approved plan.

The purpose of the provisions of this law is to protect the individual user, the public and the environment against improper use, storage and disposition of dangerous pesticides.

The term "pesticides" includes insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and rodenticides. The EPA is preparing a list of "Restricted Pesticides". At this time there is a list titled "Candidate Chemicals for Restricted Use". Those chemicals classed as for general use may be purchased and used by anyone. Edwin L. Johnson who is the EPA pesticides chief says "most agricultural and practically all home and backyard garden products will probably be classified for general use". Whether the products you find most useful for you are "restricted" or classed as "general" depends on what you have been using. I find several of my favorites on the tentative "restricted" list, e.g., Systox, chlorodane, Sevin, 2,4-D, Silvex, Diazinon, lindane, malathion and nicotine or nicotine sulphate. Most of the chemicals or preparations on the "restricted" list are so classed because of their acute toxicity to people or wildlife if ingested, or inhaled or because the ingredients may cause serious eye damage or skin irritation to people. Some are listed as "restricted" because of their potential for long-term adverse effects on people, fish, or wildlife.

As noted earlier there are two types of "applicators", namely, "private" and "commercial". A private applicator is one who uses or supervises the

use of "restricted pesticide products on property owned or rented by him or his employer". This includes farmers, orchardists, ranchers, and African violet growers, growing plants in his home or greenhouse. A "commercial applicator" will generally be a person who applies pesticides as a means of livelihood on property of others.

As a minimum requirement for certification, a private applicator must show that he has a practical knowledge of pest problems associated with his agricultural or other operation plus the proper storage, use, handling and disposal procedures for the pesticides he uses, including proper disposal of used pesticide containers. This practical knowledge includes the ability to: (1) recognize common pests and pest damage; (2) read and understand labels and labeling information, including any specific disposal procedures (3) apply pesticides in accordance with label instructions and warnings, including ability to prepare proper dilutions; (4) recognize local environmental situations that must be considered; and (5) recognize poisoning symptoms and know what to do in case of an accident.

In each State having an approved plan for certification of pesticide applicators there will be an agency of State government responsible for examining applicants to insure that the applicant is qualified to use "restricted" pesticide products. Written or oral tests or other equivalent systems as approved in the State plan may be used. The written examination may be the "true or false" or "multiple choice" type of examination.

The State of Virginia may be used as an example of how the certification process works. In Virginia the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is the agency responsible for examining applicants. The Cooperative Extension Service of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (a land-grant college) has prepared a "Pesticide Applicator Certification Training Manual" which is well organized for self-study. If you know the contents of this manual you can be assured of passing the exam. In addition to the manual, the Extension Service will give class room instruction to groups who wish to apply for it. Both the manual and class room instruction are free. No examination fee is charged the private applicator. In Vir-

ginia "commercial applicators" pay a fee of \$25.00.

For more information on the "Pesticide Applicator Certification" program in your State it is suggested you contact your County or State Cooperative Extension Service or your State or local

pesticide regulatory officials. The latter may be located in the State Department of Agriculture (as in Virginia) or the State Department of Natural Resources. Also you may write to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460.

A Nickname Starts New Violet Series

Jim Wright of Decatur, GA has a nickname. It's "Do," a nickname a neighbor gave him years ago. She said, "Jim's always doing something". Hence, the nickname "Do". His wife Jean, and children picked it up and as he says, "It looks like I'll carry it to my grave, but I don't mind."

Jim, who has a fulltime job as sales representative for "Best Foods", admits he's still a hobbyist even though he and his wife operate a shop, "Violets Galore of Georgia".

One of his plants, 'Do's Jean' (named for his wife) won 2nd best seedling at the St. Louis AVSA convention/show. Now he has made reservations with Adele Tretter, AVSA Plant Registration Chairman, for the following names: 'Do's Jean', 'Do's Judy Lynn' (named for one of his daughters), 'Do's Janet Lee' (for another daughter),

'Do's Realido' and 'Do's Pat Plunkett', (for a deceased Sunday school teacher).

The Wrights are now working with 50 seedlings, which they consider good strong plants.

"In the past five years the violet business has grown like crazy," he said. "People found us and wanted to buy violets. So-o-o we now have 300 running feet of benches under lights in the basement, 3-and-4 tier racks, plus a greenhouse of my own design in the backyard, 18'x40', also 3 tiers. We estimate to grow about 10,000 registered plants. All our plants are sold locally. However, if there is a demand for the Do Series, we plan to advertise and ship as the demand warrants."

Decatur is 10 miles from downtown Atlanta. The Wrights invite African violet enthusiasts visiting in the area to drop by and visit with them.

69 Yearbooks In Competition

*Mrs. Christian D. Leppard
and*

Mrs. Donald N. Riemer, Co-Chairman

The 1977 yearbook competition attracted 69 entries from the growing AVSA family. The quality and depth of material made judging entries both very difficult and very interesting.

Judging of yearbooks was a service project of the New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges, Mrs. Donald N. Riemer, President. Judges included Mrs. Riemer, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Lyons, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Hansen, Mrs. Christine D. Leppard, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn B. Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Sam W. Rolph, Jr., and Edward Bradford.

The 1977 winners are:

First, The Saintpaulia Society of St. Louis, MO., Scott Snyder, president; Second, Top Choice African Violet Society of Shreveport, LA, Mrs. M. L. Harwell, president; Third, The African Violet Society of Canton, OH, Mrs. Jack Westfall, presi-

dent; Fourth, Crosstown African Violet Club of Madison, WI, Mrs. Joseph Hessel, president.

Many affiliates entered for the first time and nearly all affiliates followed AVSA guidelines for yearbooks carefully. This year there were 51 blues, 8 reds, 1 white, and 9 'no awards.' Most 'no awards' were due to over-sized entries, lack of or no projects, or lack of or no information on programs. Also omitted was the number of local members who also belong to AVSA.

The New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges thanks all the affiliates who entered their books properly wrapped and mailed early. It is recommended that only First Class mail be used as some entries took six to eight weeks to arrive by Third Class, and then some were damaged.



Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chr. Miniature and Semimini Class
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561

SPRING SHOW WINNERS:

AVSA - St. Louis, MO convention, Best Mini, 'Little Delight', Mary Lou Terriel; Best Semi, 'Lovely Wasp', Mrs. Fred Steffen.

AVSA - Syracuse, NY, Best Mini, amateur, 'Tiny Gypsy', Barbara Robson; Best Mini, Com'l. 'K39D', Martin Miller; New York State Collection Miniature, Amateur, 'Toy Clown', 'Tiny Teen', 'Wee Dither', Ruth Meek; Com'l, 'Tippy Pink', 'Tiny Gypsy', 'Mint Blue', Martin Miller; New York State Collection Semiminiature, Amateur, 'Little Lulu', 'Cherry Hill', 'Blue Dandy', Ruth Meek; Com'l 'Misty Trinket', 'Window Lace', 'Candy Trinket', Martin Miller;

Bergen County AVS, NY, Best Mini, 'Coco', Bob Humphries; Best Semi, 'Little Lulu', Bob Humphries.

Montgomery AVS, Montgomery, AL, Best Mini, 'Crystal Florida Snows', Donald Dunbar; Best Semi, 'Red Dragon', Donald Dunbar.

North Shore AVS, Huntington, NY, Best Mini, 'Midget Valentine', Jane Weber; Best Semi, 'Snoopy', Julia Hieronymi (Also runner up to Queen); Best NY State Mini Collection, 'Snow Bells', 'Sport Tiny Gypsy', 'Midget Valentine', Jane Weber.

Portland AVS, OR, Best Mini, 'Tiny Pink', Nadine Berthold (Also 2nd best in show); Best Semi, 'Bloomburst', JoAnn Ellinson.

Sweetwater AVS, Hauppauge, NY, Best Mini, 'Blue Sprite', Jane Weber (Also Junior Queen); Best Semi, 'Dancing Doll', Linda Gaimaro.

The AVS of Staten Island, Best Mini, 'Tippy Pink', Ann Dooley (Also 2nd best in show); Best Semi, 'Royal Trinket', Ray Dooley.

Utica AVS, Utica, NY, Best Mini, 'Twinkle Toes', Estelle Hutchins.

I did forget to remind you to send in your club's winners so those of you who forgot may send them in to make the November issue.

I have received many letters and phone calls pertaining to the way the miniatures and semiminiatures were judged in the various shows around the

country. The pot size of these small plants is not necessarily judged by the same guideline, that the pot be 1/3 the size of the plant, that the standard plants are judged by. Judges sometimes forget that a guideline is just that — a guide, not a law, and common sense, esthetics and knowledge of the growth of a plant should be considered. They also forget the **GOLDEN RULE**, to judge other's plants as you would want yours judged. Don't look for flaws but look for beauty!

If a plant is overpotted or underpotted only a few points should be taken off—it should not be dropped to a red ribbon. A 5" miniature in a 2½" pot is not overpotted. Most miniatures, unless they are very tiny leaved plants should be in the 2½" pots for best results. The smaller plants do all right in the 2¼" pots. It is a mistake to keep the plants in anything smaller than the 2¼" pots. The maximum root growth and floriferousness will not be obtained.

Good news for all miniature and semiminiature trailer growers. As of this issue in Ruth Carey's "Shows and Judges" column, you will note that all restrictions on diameters of the trailers and sizes of pots have been lifted. Miniature and semiminiature trailers may be in any size pot their growth warrants just as long as the pot is in proportion to the plant. The category of miniature semitrailer (which has been so confusing as the plants are genetically unstable— will be included in the miniature class. The classes will read: Standards, Semiminiatures and Miniatures.

The miniature and semiminiature classes at the convention in St. Louis were unbelievable with over 205 plants exhibited. In 1968, at the St. Louis convention there were only 69 plants in that section. Someone did write me that they were disappointed that there weren't more, but I for one, was delighted. I am looking forward to the time when they will have to be divided into singles, doubles and perhaps colors. They are really holding their own and coming in for top awards as you can see in the above winners.

The 1975 Miniature and Semiminiature Culture

and Variety list is available from me at the cost of \$2.00. Please make checks or money orders out to AVSA. The 1976 supplement will be included. If you already have the list and just want the supplement, send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

We are now working on a supplement for 1977. If you come across new releases that aren't being released nationally or by the big hybridizers, do send us a description and the hybridizer's name. Sometimes releases by amateurs or small commercials are not listed because they have not sent us the information.

CROSS YOUR I's . . . and DOT YOUR T's . . .

Mrs. W. F. Anderson 360 Tulip Drive
St. Louis, MO 63119

Correspondents have suggested a problem area where all AVSA members can help by setting a good example. When YOU write a label for your plant, are you careful to spell the name correctly? Do you use abbreviations that can be misinterpreted when you share a plant with another violet hobbyist?

When you add a new cultivar to your collection do you check the *Master Variety List* to find if the plant is true to its description? Registered names are listed correctly in *Master Variety List No. 3*. This will be a valuable addition to your library. All registered names from the first official registration to the date of publication are listed in this edition. If you haven't ordered a copy, see the STRICTLY BUSINESS page in this magazine on inside cover for information.

When you enter a plant in a show do you take time to write the name clearly and in full on the entry tag? When you send a report on your show winners, do you check your copy for correct spelling of all names of award winning plants? Two registered cultivars whose names are frequently misspelled in reports are 'Miriam Steel' and 'Tom-mie Lou'.

Do you know that in the nomenclature rules for registration abbreviated names are not acceptable. 'William Bruce' is not shortened to "Wm.". Mister used in a title is written out and not abbreviated "Mr.". Check the registered list for 'Mister Gus', 'Mister Cordelia', 'Mister R', 'Mister Dates'.

By setting a good example YOU can lessen the problem of two spellings and avoid the confusion of whether this may be a different cultivar. So watch your p's and q's when writing a plant name. The same plant by two names is something that we can and should avoid.

In Memoriam

Mrs. C. Hugh Heard

It is with deep regret that The First African Violet Society of Dallas reports the death of its beloved member, Mrs. C. Hugh Heard, on Feb. 10, 1977. Nell was a "natural born" African violet grower. She really understood them and was most generous in sharing her knowledge. She was also a long-time and popular judge. Many people, even beyond the violet club, will miss Nell for the help she gave them with violets and even more for her sweet and warm personality.

Victor Constantinov

The smiling face of San Francisco's commercial member, Victor Constantinov, will no longer be seen, as Victor died suddenly of heart failure in the University of California Hospital on May 7. He is survived by a daughter, Barbara Piepergerdes, and two grandchildren, Theodore and Katrina.

Victor's dear smiling face will well be remembered through the many beautiful violet varieties he hybridized, 46 of which are registered among the 63 listed under the Constantinov name in the new 1976 No. 3, Master Variety List.

The inspiration to hybridize came from a story by a University geneticist which he read in the African Violet Magazine shortly after he joined the San Francisco Society in August, 1957. In 1962 he became a commercial and thereafter exhibited as a commercial at the AVSA convention/shows. In 1966 his 'Shower of Stars' won best commercial in Canada. At the AVSA Hartford Convention, a seedling which placed second, later was named and registered in honor of the then AVSA president, Edith V. Peterson. In 1973 Victor himself won the AVSA Bronze Medal for horticultural achievement. Violet lovers everywhere, for he had shipped all over the world, and they visited his greenhouse, will feel a great personal loss not only in the friendship of this jovial, generous man, but also in the violet beauty he created.

Monnie Lacey

The Hattiesburg, MI AVS reports with deep regret the death of one of its most faithful members, Monnie Lacey. Her love for flowers and her sharing of her knowledge and of her plants made many novice African violet enthusiasts of countless people in the community. She was a member of the Hattiesburg AVS, the Dixie AVS, and the City View Garden Club, past president of the Hattiesburg Garden Council and active in the Sears garden projects. She is survived by a daughter, a son, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Preparing Plants For Show

Mrs. H. N. Hansen
708 Wyndale Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

(ED. NOTE: This is the first of a two-part article. Part I, Selection, Symmetry and Floriferousness. Part II, Condition).

September is the time to choose your potential plants for an April show. Try to select plants which have a good natural symmetry, many blooms per stem, two or more stalks per leaf and are consistently good bloomers. If you start to groom these plants now, they should be in excellent condition by show time. Grooming includes the constant removal of suckers before they can distort the shape of the plant, the removal of primary or baby leaves, constant cleaning with a soft brush and warm water spray, allowing the plant to dry out of the sun and drafts, and repotting when the plant needs it, not when you find it most convenient. The pot should be approximately 1/3 the size of the plant. Thus a plant 9 inches in diameter should be in a 3 inch pot. Leave some space at the top of the soil so that extra soil can be added to cover a neck which will probably develop as the lower leaves are removed. If you can work on two plants of the same variety, you can choose the best one to enter in the show and donate the extra one to the store for sale.

If you want to disbud your plant you should start now if you have not already done so. I would strongly recommend that you read the article in the African Violet Magazine of November 1976 by Sandra M. Lex on page 35. To recap very briefly, you should experiment with each variety as every plant is different in the time it takes to come into full bloom. As a very general rule disbudding should stop six weeks before show for single blooms, seven to eight weeks for semidoubles and doubles, and 10 weeks for supremes. Miniatures and semiminiatures do not need as many blooms and sometimes resent disbudding. However, they do sucker more easily and suckers must be kept off to preserve the shape of the plant. If you do disbud you will find that leaves get much larger than usual and the plant will probably sucker more.

Symmetry and floriferousness earn the most points in a show plant, a total of 55 points. Symmetry, 30 points, is the shape of a plant as a whole, not just outside row of leaves. Each row of leaves should overlap the next from the center out so that no soil shows between the leaves. For this reason, some plants are not suitable for show. If

the plant is open and the leaves leggy, it is difficult to achieve good symmetry. The outer row of leaves should be the largest and any smaller ones in the outer row or under them should be removed. If the removal of a leaf leaves a gap another leaf can be gently moved over to fill the gap by using a plastic toothpick to keep it in place for a few days. If the gap is a large one the leaf should be moved gradually. The use of a collar made from a paper plate is also helpful. Not only does it support the outer leaves but it enables you to spot any leaves which are out of place. Tailored leaves are easier to train than fringed or girl leaves. Since plants with fringed leaves are apt to be bunchy in the center, the judicious removal of a few leaves from the inner rows may not only help the symmetry, but also allow light to reach the center of the plant where the buds form. New buds will form only in the three center rows and good light is essential for their formation. Buds cannot form without light.

Floriferousness is worth 25 points. This is the actual number of FRESH open blooms on the plant at the time it is judged. A mature plant is expected to have 20 to 25 blossoms on it, supremes half as many but larger, and miniatures and semiminiatures a minimum of six according to the variety. The number of blooms should be in proportion to the size of the plant. Thus a small or young plant does not need as many blooms to win full points as a large plant, though, of course, the more blooms it has, the better. Buds do not count as bloom and faded ones, or even questionable ones, will lose a point each under condition so you must be sure that all faded blooms are removed before entering the plant.

I recently heard an experienced grower and judge, Harold Black, say that a show plant needs only three rows of leaves and that most show plants have far too many leaves. I agree with him wholeheartedly. The older, outside leaves contribute nothing to your plant, either in appearance or horticulture. They only take strength from the center of the plant where the new growth and buds form. By trimming off outside leaves, not only will you have a far more attractive looking plant with, hopefully, more bloom, but you will have room to grow more plants! Technically, the

only time a larger plant will win a higher award such as best in class, is when all other factors are equal. This includes condition, which is more difficult to keep perfect on a larger plant than on a small one. Good horticulture can be the deciding factor as it was recently in trying to choose the best in show between two beautiful plants. The smaller plant won because of superior horticulture in spite of one of the judges remarking that the larger one looked more like what the public would consider to be a show plant.

(To be Continued)

STATEMENT OF CASH
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

THE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED

Year Ended February 28,

RECEIPTS:	1977	1976
Memberships:		
New	\$ 50,152	\$ 41,339
Renewals	86,716	71,768
Other	7,778	6,345
	<u>\$144,646</u>	<u>119,452</u>
Advertising	11,534	9,725
Back issues	1,835	1,445
Research	3,825	2,644
Library rentals	1,226	981
Plant registrations	599	596
Variety lists	5,885	1,471
Binders	1,589	1,335
Booster fund	677	576
Interest (less \$528 and \$447 transferred to life membership receipts, respectively)	8,200	7,506
Emblems	2,403	1,985
Conventions	8,294	3,964
Cultural folders	2,546	3,957
Entry tags	493	318
Semiminiatures and miniatures list	1,239	795
Shows and judges	99	131
Foreign exchange	14	—
Other	113	11
Total Receipts	<u>\$195,217</u>	<u>\$156,892</u>
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Magazine	\$ 90,224	71,261
Services and payroll taxes ...	28,408	22,673

Office supplies and expenses .	4,441	4,785
Office equipment	4,980	—
Annual business meeting	624	1,010
Variety lists	16,421	1,512
Postage	11,186	7,245
Conventions	1,088	951
Rent	2,798	2,120
Committees	4,214	3,956
Cultural folders	6,973	5,677
Emblems	1,411	1,182
Professional services	700	700
Binders	1,097	1,039
Foreign exchange and bank charges	—	75
Officers' expenses	792	584
Research grant & expenses ..	239	3,010
Entry tags	—	472
Semiminiatures and miniatures list	41	944
	<u>\$175,637</u>	<u>\$129,196</u>
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$ 19,580</u>	<u>\$ 27,696</u>

Mrs. W. J. Krogman
Receives Awards

Mrs. William J. Krogman of Brookfield, WI was winner of the Commercial Collection Award (Gold Rosette) at the St. Louis convention/show with her three registered varieties, 'Lavender Tempest', 'Fashionaire' and 'Granger's Wildlife'.

Mrs. Krogman's 'Fashionaire' also won her the Gene Garner Award for the best specimen of a registered plant.

In the Commercial Division horticultural perfection rosettes were won by Swift's African Violets of Dallas, TX, Buell's Greenhouses of Eastford, CT and Lyndon Lyon of Dolgeville, NY.

Other display table entries were by Crestwood Violetry of Atlanta, GA, The House of Violets of Camden, AR, Ronn Nadeau of Maryland Heights, MO, Hilton Dahlia Famrs of Springfield, NJ and Reinhold Holtkamp of Isselburg, Germany.

In addition to the display tables in the show-room, 24 tables were set up in the sales room where Commercial growers sold leaves, plants and supplies.

LIFETIME JUDGES

Check your Judge's certificate. If it carries a notation "Due 1977", the review examination is due by October 1. See the June magazine page 77 for details.

Terrarium Thumb

*Mrs. Jean Achauer
7818 West Lynmar Court
Milwaukee, WI 53222*

(Mrs. Achauer conducted one of the workshops, "Planting Terrariums" at the AVSA St. Louis Convention/Show).

Most of us conventioners have traveled a good number of miles to be together and enjoy all the activities our St. Louis friends have planned for us. The show, dinners, tours, and work shops are all great fun and exciting, and we probably will have "the time of our lives", but when it is all over and we head down the highway and the familiar sights of home begin to come in view, don't most of us say, "It was good to get away, but, gee, it's nice to be home!" Think about home for a minute. It's a pleasant, happy, secure place. It's warm and comfortable. It is a very personal place and has just the right living conditions for each individual. And likewise, this is what a terrarium is to your plants. A home, a very special home, that provides the perfect way to duplicate the particular growing conditions for your plants.

Over a hundred years ago, Dr. Nathaniel B. Ward, an English botanist, used enclosed containers to transport fragile and delicate plants to and from foreign lands. This is how the tea industry was transplanted from China to India and also how rubber plantations were moved from continent to continent. These containers were named Wardian cases. The miracle of these terrariums was, that plants enclosed in this moist atmosphere free from impurities seemed to live indefinitely. Because of this and the fact that homes had no central heating systems, terrariums were used for the protection of plants as well as to become an important decoration in the plush parlors of the Victorian Era.

Terrariums are fun to plant and easy to grow! The first consideration should be given to your choice of container. There are many different sizes and shapes; bowls, domes, brandy snifters, aquariums, candy jars, gazebos with leaded glass construction, hanging terrariums, or even large plantarium units complete with twin tube lighting. The style you choose will probably depend a great deal on where you plan to place the terrarium in your home. Material is also a factor in selecting your container. Glass containers are easy to clean, afford a nice clear view of your garden, but they are fragile. Plastics, on the other hand, are easy to scratch, not quite so clear for viewing, but are durable. The dome shape or split bubble type terrariums are the easiest to plant because the planting

area is completely exposed when the lid is removed. One thing to remember, when selecting a terrarium, if you plan to enter it in an AVSA Show it must have a lid or cover.

Once your selection is made and your container is sparkling clean, you can begin. Place a layer of gravel and/or sand in the bottom to act as a dry well. Next add a layer of charcoal, and then your soil, filling your container to about one third. Moisten soil lightly with spray or mist. You may purchase a terrarium soil mix if you wish, or use your own favorite African violet mix. I prefer the latter.

You can now create a woodland, tropical, desert, or houseplant garden, but you cannot combine them all in the same container. Different plants require different conditions and must be grouped accordingly. Study your plants and know which like it warm or cool, shade or sunlight, high or low humidity. Plants tolerating the same conditions can successfully be grouped together.

I have two 30-gallon aquariums with lights in which I was growing *Espicias* and *Sinningias* together. They were doing just fine as long as I was home to regulate the conditions by opening the air vent occasionally and misting, but I spend my summer at the lake, 300 miles away, and since I take all my African violet plants with me, I felt the two 30-gallon aquariums had to stay home. I left them for three months with the air vent closed, hoping to contain the moisture. When I returned it was obvious the *Espicias* had thoroughly enjoyed their summer existence, but the *Sinningias* who are tuber plants were beginning to rot. Some tubers could be salvaged and others had just vanished into oblivion. Needless to say, I now have one aquarium for *Espicias* and one for *Sinningias* so each can be regulated accordingly. Terrariums are great for growing other Gesneriads and starting leaves. Be sure to keep leaves and plants well marked, especially those plants that go dormant or you may forget where they are.

To make your terrarium artistic and interesting, try landscaping. Make little hills and valleys with rock outcroppings or shore up a terrace with a piece of driftwood. Let it be your own creative scene. Where you wish to display your terrarium

may be a deciding factor in your design. If you wish to use it on a coffee table or center table, you would probably want a high center and an all around design to be viewed from all angles. If it is to be viewed from the front or one angle, the height would be in the back.

Arrange the plants you wish to use (don't forget a violet) in a design on the table before you start planting. This way you can shift them around with ease until they form the design you want to achieve. I start with the larger, taller plants and work toward the smaller lower growing plants. Then dig holes in corresponding places within the container. After your plants are in place if you feel too much soil still shows, you can spread sheet moss, which can be purchased from a florist, gently over the soil so that it comes into growing contact with the soil to complete the effect. When selecting your plants, look for younger smaller plants because they grow rapidly in a terrarium

Here's How They Score

ENTER YEARBOOKS IN AUSTIN SHOW

*Mrs. H. Nicholas Hansen
Yearbook Judging Coordinator
708 Wyndale Rd.
Jenkintown, PA 19046*

The 1978 yearbook entries for the Austin convention yearbook class will be judged by the North Texas African Violet Judges Council. Mrs. Shirley R. Jeffrey, 1918 Williamsburg Row, Denton, TX 76201, will serve as Yearbook Judging Chairman and entries should be sent to her not later than March 1, 1978 if you hope to have your book judged. Two copies of the book should be sent to her and if an acknowledgement is wanted a self-addressed postal should be enclosed with the entry.

I want to thank Mrs. Christine Leppard and Mrs. Janet Riemer, 1977 Yearbook Chairmen, and the judges of the New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges for evaluating the 1977 entries. Unfortunately Chris had to move in the middle of the year and, even though her move was announced in the magazine and affiliates were asked to send them to Mrs. Riemer instead, many were still sent to Chris at her old address and some did not reach her in time to be judged. However, if the postmark was before March 1 a special panel of judges worked at the convention to judge them so that there would be no disappointments.

Aside from the books which were definitely late, several books had to be disqualified because

and for that reason, do not fertilize or they will soon outgrow the container.

Accessories "Accentuate the Positive". Driftwood, rocks, shells, coral, fungus, stones, and figurines can all add personality and distinction, but be careful! One or two accessories will enhance the beauty of your terrarium, but too many will make it look cluttered. Proportion is also very important. Don't use a three-inch frog with a one-inch deer, or the frog just might eat the deer.

When making a terrarium for an African Violet Show, remember, there sometimes is a theme to follow according to the schedule and one or more blooming violets are a must. Also a 3 x 5 card listing all plants and growing material should accompany your entry.

There's a wonderful world of challenges in terrarium gardening. Why not try it? Maybe you'll discover a terrarium thumb!

they were oversize. Even 1/8 of an inch on the cover will put them out of the running and I would like to suggest that you be SURE the cutting is accurate.

The scale of points in the Judges Handbook and also published in The African Violet Magazine is very specific and if this scale is referred to when making up the book there is no reason why all the books entered should not win a ribbon. A good many of the points are automatic and require no "judgment". The most important and most difficult parts to evaluate are number 9 in the scale, QUALITY OF PROGRAMS ACCORDING TO AVSA OBJECTIVE(S), and number 10, QUALITY OF PROJECTS ACCORDING TO AVSA OBJECTIVES. Exactly what is meant by these is thoroughly explained in The African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors by Ruth G. Carey on pages 67-68. It is hoped that every affiliate will refer to this book.

Please don't delay in sending your yearbook to Mrs. Jeffrey as soon as it is completed. The committee will be grateful to you for sending your book early and you will not have to worry about whether you met the deadline of March 1st.

Variegated African Violets, What Will You Do Next?

Michael Luongo
12 Devon Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06850

My First Mistakes: Variegated African violets are they ever beautiful! Well, they are to me now but two years ago I wouldn't have given them a dime. This was because I did not have the proper conditions for them. I was doing everything wrong. Fish Emulsion, my only fertilizer, made the leaves turn all green. I gave them too much light which made the leaves much lighter in color and the center leaves looked as if they had mites. I must admit they looked terrible.

Correcting My Mistakes: The first step in correcting these mistakes was getting rid of all the bad plants. I then got some nice new small plants. These plants were ones I had seen at shows before and I knew they were good plants. By the time I knew it they were crying for a four-inch pot. I potted them in a very light porous soil on a wick, the wick used was a number 24 nylon seine cord which is available at most hardware stores. 2½ inches of wick goes into the pot and the bottom wick goes to the bottom of the container.

The fertilizer used for these plants was Peters Variegated Special. Add 1¼ to 1½ teaspoon to a gallon of warm water. These plants grow rapidly on wick and must be leached once a month or when the container is empty. Leaching eliminates the problem of fertilizer burn, which can really hurt a beautiful violet plant. Symptoms of this are when the center leaves have a whitish color to them, the leaves are also very brittle. The only time when you should use fish fertilizer is when your plant is unhealthily variegated and has very little green in the leaves. A mix of 1¼ teaspoon to a gallon of warm water either applied to the soil or as a foliar feed will usually do the trick.

My violets green and variegated are grown under fluorescent lights; 1 cool white and 1 warm white. The tubes are changed once a year for optimum growth and flowering. My lights run 10 hours a day 365 days a year. The plants are approximately 12 to 14 inches from the tubes. I place the reds and dark blues under the center of the tubes with the light pinks and whites at the ends.

Most of my variegates are grown on the bottom and middle shelves of my setup where it is cooler. The higher the temperature the less the variegation

your plants will have. Humidity needs are the same as for green violets, 40 to 70% is fine. Clean leaves make them grow quicker, so shower your plants once a month. Pests have never been a problem for me but I still take precautions. I use 1 teaspoon Isotox Systemic to one gallon of warm water. The plants are watered once every five months.

The reservoirs in which my plants grow from are set on perlite which is only moistened during dry weather to increase the humidity. My propagating methods are the same as with my green violets. Sturdy leaves are taken from the plant and cut 1 to 1½ inches long. These leaves are set either in flats of moist vermiculite or in separate 2½-inch pots. The young plants are fertilized lightly when roots begin to grow. The babies are separated from the mother leaf when they are about 1½ inches high. They are put in my regular soil but not on wick because I have so many.

Some Favorite Varieties: Final Touch—A lovely huge dbl pink on nice flat foliage. Tommie Lou—The oldtime favorite. Dbl white, good foliage. Winter Grape—Slightly cupped foliage with pink. Gorgeous orchid bicolor blooms. Sugar Blues—Huge blue geneva, very nice foliage. Alouette—Beautiful pink blossoms on ruffled pink foliage. Ivory Buttons—Dbl white blooms on very good foliage. Mystic—Dbl orchid blooms on good Tommie Lou foliage. Plain n' Fancy—Huge pink dbl blooms on good foliage. Good. Crimson Frost—Gorgeous crimson stars on good show type foliage. Happy Harold—Nice purple blooms on nice Tommie Lou foliage. Sweet Honesty—A new plant. Huge dbl pink ruffled blossoms on ruffled Tommie Lou foliage.

These are some of my better performers. All plants grow differently in other climates. This is how I do it in mine. GOOD LUCK!

SEND TO EDITOR

Pictures and writeups of violets, people or anything for the Magazine are to be sent DIRECTLY to the Editor! Too much delay and too much postage if done otherwise.

AVSA AFFILIATES

Mrs. Wayne (Mildred) Schroeder

Affiliate Chairman

1739 N 74th Court

Elmwood Park, IL 60635

The AVSA is alive and growing! Since becoming Affiliate Chairman, I can assure you that this statement is very true. February, March and April have been a maze of very busy days. Time for sorting out systems of bookkeeping, learning how to mail awards packets which will arrive at their destination in one piece despite the U.S. Mail, and becoming acquainted with affiliate chapters have been given priority in my life. Perhaps you have been the victim of "human error" while the change in chairmen was made. Please write and let me know and I will make every effort to correct the problem.

Hopefully within the next few months new material will be written and new ways devised to help you furnish material needed for the society's records. You will hear of these changes in this column so watch for it!

A correction — In the March 1977 issue the Wisconsin Council AVC Sweepstakes Bowl award winner was listed as Mrs. Gilbert Arndt. Mrs. Arndt was a sweepstakes winner in the advanced classes of the show but the AVSA Silver Award was won by Mrs. Lee Grande, R 1 Beloit, WI. Congratulations to Mrs. Grande for winning the award. Sorry for the error!

The much coveted green rosette Standard Show Award has been mailed to 57 clubs! What a fine record. Outstanding shows are a visible sign that AVSA is depending on its affiliates to continue to grow. Congratulations!

Standard Show Awards

The STANDARD SHOW AWARD (GREEN ROSETTE) was won by the following affiliates from January 1 to June 1, 1977. The list includes the club, the theme, and the show chairman:

Upper Pinellas AVS "Violets-Nature's Gift", Mrs. William Zane.

Greater Kansas City AVC "Carnival of Violets", Myra Bacharach.

The AVC of Birmingham, AL "African Violets Come Marching In", Mrs. J. D. Austin.

AVS of Pensacola "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow", Barbara Hahn.

Central Florida AVS "A Journey Thru the Zodiac", Mrs. H. Steven Johnson.

Tucson AVS "African Violet Magic", Mrs. Helen Kavanaugh.

New Orleans AVS "Violets In The Oriental Mood", Mrs. Susan Burden.

Violet Harmony Club "The Sound of Music", Dr. David Fuchshuber.

Top Choice AVS "Happiness Is Violets", Mrs. Glenn Reeves.

Tampa AVS "Violets Heavenly In Seven and Seventy", Carol Walker.

Haines City AVS "Violets In Paradise", Mrs. Warren Partain Sr.

The Shreveport AVS "Rainbow of Violets", Mrs. Frank Rodie.

Atchafalaya AVS "Violets A Paradise of Beauty", George Ramirez.

Corpus Christi AVS "Violets Tropicana", Mrs. Tenai Baker.

Bergen County AVS "In A China Garden", Mrs. Robert Humphreys.

Houston Gesneriad Society "Nature's Charms", Mrs. James Pappas.

AVS of Staten Island "TAVSSA Comes Of Age", Mr. William Sorensen.

Montgomery AVS "There's No Business Like Show Business", Mrs. Jeff Fuller.

Union County Chapter AVSA "Peter Pan, Tinker Bell and Violets Too", Mr. Ed Maas.

Bluff City AVC "Carnival Time With Violets", Eloise Alexander.

African Violet Society of Syracuse "Silver Memories", Doris Weld.

AVS of Philadelphia "Getting It All Together", Mrs. H. Nicholas Hansen.

Windsor AVS "Violets At Eastertime", Mrs. John Hayes.

Capital District AVS and AVS of Albany "Happiness Is Moving Forward With African Violets", Mrs. Stanley Purzycki.

Sparkling Waters AVS "Violets Swing Into Spring", Mrs. Mary Boose.

Troy Alabama AVS "Woodland Fantasy", Shirley Heron.

First Nighter AVS of Dallas "Violets In Wonderland", Mr. Bill Foster.

First AVS of Denton, TX "African Violets In The Orient", Shirley Jeffrey.

Ventura County AVS "Clowning Around With

Violets", Dorothy Bruce.

AVS of Lower Bucks County "S. S. Saintpaulia", Mrs. Kay Lyons.

AVS of Birmingham "Any Time Is Violet Time", Mrs. T. M. Breckenridge.

First AVS of Wichita Falls "The History of African Violets", Mrs. Harold Moffatt.

Astro, Montco, Spring Branch AV Societies "Texas Is Natural Beauty", Julia M. Brittain.

Tri City AVS "Silver Bells", Mrs. Geo. Roecker.
Delaware AVS "Heavenly Violets", Rose Marie McMann.

Evening AVC of Des Moines "Springtime and Violets", Mrs. Claribel Proudfit.

Silvermine AVS "Violet Casino", Mrs. Glenn Jackson.

Bama Belles AVS "Violets—Under the Big Top", Shirlee Sands.

North Shore AVS of Long Island "Merry May Of Violets", Susan Tirzmalis.

Town and Country AVS "Look Into The Wishing Well", Mrs. Russell Swaney.

Parmatown AVC "Love Is", Mary Pilck.

Copper City AVS "Happiness Is A Parade Of Violets", Mrs. G. E. Kiepert.

Sunday AV Matinee and Rainbow Violeteers "Our Beginning With African Violets", Mrs. W. J. Krogman and Mrs. Walter Wink.

First AVS of San Antonio "To Mother With Violets", Lillian Gravis.

Merrimack Valley AVS "Pretty As A Picture", Olga Lech.

Mid South AVS "Portrait Of Violets", Cyndi Burlison.

Old Dominion AVS of Northern Virginia "African Violet Fiesta", Judy Stroske.

AVS of Springfield, PA "And The Violets Sing", Mrs. C. B. Rios.

First AV Study Club of Ashtabula, OH "Violets Around The World", Mrs. John Torma.

Miracle Strip AVS of Panama City, FL "Hawaiian Violet Reveries", Mrs. Frank Huebscher.

AVS of Utah "Our Silver Anniversary", Ilene Jorgensen.

Friendship Gesneriad and AVS "Violets In Springtime", Mrs. J. B. Cutts.

First Arlington AVS "Swinging Into Spring", Mrs. Bob Gilson.

Metropolitan AVS "A Rainbow of Violets", Mrs. Herman Teater.

Red River AVS "Texas Violet Trails", Mrs. Roger M. Davis.

First Austin AVS "Horoscope Of Violets", Mrs. L. F. Lidiak and Mrs. W. H. Hudnall.

Columbus AVS "Violets For All Seasons", Mrs. Clark Noble.

WELCOME NEW AFFILIATES!!

We are happy to welcome the following new affiliates.

South Lake Charles AVC, Mrs. Linda Fargue, 2625 Laura Lane, Lake Charles, LA 70605.

Night Magic AVS, Mrs. Henry C. Mills, P. O. Box 414, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

Loveland Sweetheart Violettes Society, Mrs. Geo. Croteau, 2301 Ponderosa Dr., Loveland, CO 80537

Vicksburg AVC, Janet Helmuth, 407 Longview, Vicksburg, MS 39180.

Aurora Borealis AVS, Mrs. Frederick Johns, 8100 Majestic Ct., Anchorage, Alaska 99504.

Kern River Valley AVS, Mrs. Georgiana Breland, 6256 Lynch Canyon Rd., Mt. Mesa, Lake Isabella, CA 93240.

Oakville AVS, Miss Sandra M. Lex, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ont. Canada M8W-1T9.

OFFICERS' NAMES

Affiliates, please send names of newly elected officers and their addresses to Mrs. Wayne Schroeder, Affiliate Chairman — NOT to the Magazine Editor. Too much postage is required to send these names from the Editor on to the Affiliate Chairman — so, your officers' names are not listed in the November Magazine.

New Awards Aide Named

Mrs. Mickey Ray, 1206 Austin Avenue, College Station, TX 77840 has been named the 1978 Awards Aide to replace Julia Brittain of Houston, according to Celine Chase, AVSA Awards Chairman.

Each year the AVSA Awards Committee receives numerous awards — silver trophies and trays, other suitable items and cash — to be presented at convention time to winners at the annual AVSA show.

Cash awards are to be sent to Mrs. Chase, 482 Rutherford Avenue, Redwood City, CA 94061.

All other items — other than cash — are to be sent or delivered to Mrs. Ray, or they may be brought to the convention in Austin. However, Mrs. Chase or Mrs. Ray needs to be advised of the award. Please specify whether you are bringing it to the convention or having it delivered to Mrs. Ray.

Question Box



By Anne Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006

September brings a challenge to growers one and all,
Examine your violets individually and reduce the ones too tall.
Rejuvenate, Repot, Evaluate their temperature, light and soil,
Lush foliage and blossoms galore will reward you for your toil.

Dear Readers,

After speaking personally to so many members at our recent convention in St. Louis, I feel a very great responsibility for your problems and concerns in growing such beautiful plants. Anyone who was privileged to see such marvelous plants of flowering African violets that greeted us at the showroom, where row upon row of vibrant colors and sparkling white plants were entered in great numbers of the amateur classes, can well be proud of a thriving interest membership. Hearty congratulations to all the participants.

Anne

Q. Dear Anne: I have been reading as much literature as I can get my hands on, on my new-found hobby, growing African violets. I have no disease but in my reading find one should use a systemic for the control of disease. What I don't understand is what is meant by using a wetting agent with it?

A. A wetting agent is any admixture to a liquid for increasing its ability to penetrate, or spread over the surface of a given material. One example would be in using peat moss which would be difficult to wet the first time without the use of a wetting agent.

Q. I am very fortunate in having a great area of window space to grow my violets but am always confused in being able to determine when they are getting too much or too little light.

A. Plants that receive too much direct or burning sun will soon get a yellow bleached look. Petioles will be short and center can appear a bit stunted. They will also tend to cup their outer leaves over the pot.

Too little light will encourage long or lanky

petioles. Growth can be slow and lack the vigor and flowering of one that receives proper light. Blooms, if they appear, will be sparse and pale.

A plant is usually in sufficient proper light when a plant grows in a flat rosette pattern and the color of foliage and flower are vibrant and consistent.

I would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions:

Q. How long should the stems be when rooting leaves?

A. I would suggest cutting the stem to an inch or an inch and a half before inserting it into your rooting medium.

Q. Is it better to select large mature leaves or small young leaves?

A. Neither, the old mature leaves sometimes are not as firm and suitable for rooting as one taken from the secondary row of leaves, which usually possesses the vigor needed. A very young leaf or center leaves of plants should not be used as they would not produce a robust young plantlet as readily as one from secondary row of leaves, which we find most suitable.

Q. Under normal conditions how long does it take for a cutting to develop?

A. A leaf cutting will usually develop a little plantlet under favorable conditions in about 2 or 3 months.

Q. Before transplanting the rooted cutting to the potting soil mix, should I transfer it when the roots beome 3/4 to an inch long or wait till new plants appear on the soil surface.

A. Removal of plantlets or rooted cuttings to

individual pots is never determined by the length of the root system, but by the growth that appears from the plantlet itself. These are never transferred until the green growth or tiny leaves are at least 3/4 to an inch high.

Q. Dear Anne: In an effort to eradicate springtails I used a teaspoon of Clorox to a pint of warm water on a group of plants. Now I notice the springtails are all gone but the plants that got the Clorox treatment are turning yellow in the centers. Do you have any suggestions?

A. It is possible that Clorox solution could injure or burn leaves if done too closely to the center of your plant. It should be watered in around the rim of your pot. However, in using any of these products it is always at your own risk. If splashed on foliage it could damage plants or if water temperature was not tepid or possibly if Clorox was not fresh and had been around for awhile, it may have gained in strength or in its chemical content.

Q. I want to plant one violet deeper in its pot by cutting off some of the roots and covering the long neck. Can I do this while the plant is in bud?

A. Plants can be planted down deeper in pots almost at any time. If you do not disturb the root system too much you should not lose the buds.

Q. Several of my African violets have developed a white powdery substance on the stems of their blossoms. I can see bits of the substance, especially on the dark purple blossoms, and the backside of the flowers. The powder washes off under the faucet but comes back. Please help me stop this nuisance.

A. I can certainly understand how it washes off and then comes back to attack the plants. This problem is usually known as powdery mildew or botrytis. Spores will float in the air and travel from plant to plant. It is a parasite and lives on the tissue of the plants and washing will not eradicate it. Either Mildex or Benomyl are suitable for eradication. 50% Benomyl, 1/4 tsp to a pint of water, mist spray plants and soil while it is out of sun and light. Mildex 2/3 tsp to 1 gallon of water, spray when mildew appears, then at 7-day intervals if necessary.

Be careful to keep a good environment, provide plants with proper air circulation and careful watering, especially when temperatures fluctuate.

Q. How long does it usually take before new plantlets appear on the soil surface?

A. It depends a lot on the medium in which they are growing and the individual characteristics of the plant. A good estimate would be after they

have been in the rooting medium for at least a month or more.

Q. What rooting medium do you find best for propagation in African violet cuttings?

A. We prefer a rooting medium consisting of half sand and half vermiculite (not seashore sand but bar or builders sand). Also the use of a hormone powder does tend to produce faster growth of cuttings when dipped in same before inserting in rooting medium.

Q. My collection consists of all the girl type plants which are my favorite. I find growing them under lights seems to give them a tighter center than I prefer. Plants are treated constantly for mite, etc., and it is not that type of deformity mite brings, but still they do not grow flat in center and symmetrical as I prefer. Can you make a suggestion?

A. I, too, am very fond of the attractive girl cultivars, even though not as many exist today as in former years. I find they prefer being placed at the ends of the light fixture rather than in the center where the light is more intense. Somehow they seem to thrive best where there is subdued light or possibly shorter hours of light.

Q. Dear Anne: I would greatly appreciate having this note published in your Question Box in the AV magazine. Having grown violets for many years I enjoy them immensely and have over 75 plants.

My pet peeve is this, I love many varieties but why is it that as many as five companies who have almost identical plants put a different name to them? First, it is unfair to the initial grower. We are confused by all the different varieties and do not want to buy duplicates. Please clarify and do you agree with me?

A. I can appreciate your frustration when purchasing varieties that look similar. However, I do not agree with you that growers deliberately change names. The many growers of my acquaintance are far too busy individuals to indulge in such activities. They are quite satisfied to grow a stock plant under the name purchased. It is to their advantage to do so as an established cultivar.

As the history of African violets goes it is entirely possible a grower can introduce a new cultivar that is quite similar to another grower's. Hybridizing is so extensive today and if you will study African violets over the years, trends in color and formation have occurred at various times when hybridizing has advanced to a certain plateau. Take for example the double pink, star shaped types, the variegated and even the latest coral color types seem to appear simultaneously.

The task the individual must perform is to obtain as many growers' catalogs as possible and study the specific descriptions of the ones that interest you most. The Master List, published by AVSA, may also be a great help in selecting registered cultivars that are recognized by all members. Be selective. Do your homework and enjoy obtaining the ones that suit you best.

Q. In growing my plants, I use two trays 11 x 22 x 2½. The bottom one is a plain plastic tray and the other tray is full of little plants which let the water drip through. Is this too much humidity, or would I be wise to follow another procedure?

A. I would suspect an accumulation of humidity and even excess water if you are not careful. I would also suggest another method would be using pebbles or vermiculite on the bottom of one tray only and setting your potted plants on this medium. Watering plants from the top carefully, when needed. Thus excess water can drain on the medium.

Q. Dear Anne: So many times plant articles refer to trace elements in the soil. What are they and are they needed?

A. Trace elements are ingredients vital to plant growth which are needed in very small quantities such as zinc, copper, boron and others. Most plant soils which contain sand, garden loam and peat moss contain the small amounts needed. Some plant foods also include them.

Q. Can you tell me the use of the following materials: Acti-Dione PM, rock phosphate, Dolomite limestone, Fermate, and super phosphate?

A. Acti-Dione PM which was used for the control of powdery mildew, and was an excellent fungicide, is no longer available in our state of Penn. and hasn't been for the last several years.

Rock phosphate contains calcium and various valuable trace elements. This is often used in combination with an organic soil formula.

Dolomite limestone — this material prevents the soil medium from becoming too acid. It is the best means of adding calcium to the soil as it releases minerals slowly to the fine roots without burn or damage. It is not the same as the hydrated lime which is quick-acting and can burn plant roots. Also used as an additive to an organic soil mixture.

Fermate is a black sooty-looking material used to discourage and control fungus organisms. Many times it is used to dust areas of crown rot in plants or where areas are cut away from the root. It can also be used in the potting soil.

Super phosphate is mineral phosphates that have been treated with sulphuric acid to make them soluble in water, contained in small proportions in many soil mixtures.

Q . I purchased two small sinningias at a recent violet show and was told to keep them in a closed jar, but I also have the regular size sinningias. Should they too, be kept under glass?

A. The small sinningias such as 'White Sprite', 'Concinna' and 'Pusilla' and others do best in a closed container such as a small terrarium and need very little water as they thrive best in an enclosed glass area. Lifting the lid occasionally for proper air circulation is important. I have also seen them grown in pots where high humidity and ideal conditions exist. The larger regular size sinningia do not need a glass enclosure, but can be grown under the same conditions as the African violets.

READER'S TIPS

Tip 1 . . . Regarding the Question used in your column March, 1977 on grafting . . . I have grafted two different leaves together and there is no way, you will get a plant with blossoms from the two different parent types.

The leaves fused together on rooting and put up two beautiful plants. You guessed it: One was identical to the one parent leaf and the other the same as the other leaf.

The only hard or tricky thing I found was getting the two leaves to fuse but for so much trouble, it certainly wasn't worth the effort.

Tip 2 . . . These tips are from the African Violet Society of Greater Tulsa.

Our members are very inventive . . . We do enjoy sharing plants but pots get very expensive. Almost all young plants stay in the plastic "Solo" refill cups (bathroom dispenser size) until blooming size . . . the infants go first into clear plastic pill cups obtainable from hospital supply houses (1 oz. size). Both cost approximately a penny each . . . the Solos have drainage holes made by point of knife or scissors worked back and forth gently but firmly through 4-5 a time; the pill cups take a hot ice pick or small nail held over flame with pliers . . . names and date easily put on with a "Sharpie" pen . . . both easily sterilized with soap, hot water and Clorox for re-use. Solos in several colors for personal preference, or to easily identify different batches or age groups, etc. Most members are now wicking their babies and setting on cake-racks over constant feed in cake pans . . . and wick-pots for singles are made from aluminum disposable-type muffin cups for suitable saucers, use wide-mouth seal lids from fruit jars; both can be spray painted to glamorize/match decor and hold a week-plus supply of water for 2½ to 3" pots.

Tip 3 . . . Prevention of disease is a very valid concept in striving to keep plants healthy by good sanitation. This is a better procedure than waiting to control disease after it once appears.

Violets En Route To Sweden

*Monica Bohstrom
New York City African Violet Society, Inc.*

After my introduction to African violets here in the USA I am always on the lookout for violets wherever my travels may take me. My mother has always had them on the window sills in the living room and kitchen of our home in Sweden for as long as I can remember.

I have been involved with violets for quite some time and I am used to the wonderful cultivars we have here in the USA. Almost any color combination in the blossoms and any type of foliage is possible here. In Sweden, the only violets you have are the white, purple and pink singles. No one knows anything about soil mixtures, fertilizers, humidity or grooming. Suckers and necks are natural for the plants, so no thought is given to removing them. I did offer to separate my mother's "Saintpaulas" (that is what they are known as — Saintpaula in Swedish, not Saintpaulia. Call them African violets and no one will know what you are talking about). They are properly named, but!, how badly they are cultivated. It did not impress my mother one iota that I (at the time) was the president of the New York City AVS. No one, not even the president of the USA is allowed to touch her "Saintpaulas".

In the fall of 1975 I was on my way home again, for one of my frequent visits. This time I was prepared with all sorts of goodies. I had at least 30 different violets with me, along with perlite, vermiculite, lime, charcoal, fertilizers, and who knows what else a violet grower has stashed away. Plastic pots, another luxury in Sweden, were also tucked away in my luggage. (Yes, I did leave room for just about one change). I brought miniatures, trailers, and variegated plants along with some of the standard forms. Thanks to Ethel Champion, after receiving a shipment of carefully packed plants from her, I know how to pack plants for long trips. The only thing I did not bring along was a certificate of inspection with me.

For the first time in 14 years, I was stopped by the Swedish customs officials. I was detained in the customs for quite some time because the plants were being "smuggled" in without a valid certificate. I was aware of these customs regulations but somehow did not give it any thought before I started on my trip. Unfortunately the ver-

miculite, to the inspector, looked like marijuana and the lime very much like other contraband and it was questioned, too. We can get ourselves in some trying situations at times all for the love of our African violets. However, after a long and convincing talk (and those in our Society who know me, know I am a very convincing talker) with the inspector I was allowed to be on my way with my collection. Of course, this was after I signed papers to the effect that the plants were not to be grown outside, only on my mother's window sills, just in case I was bringing in some dread insects or diseases with me. Can you imagine growing African violets outdoors in Sweden, the land of the midnight sun and the cold winters?

It was good the inspector allowed me to pass. I was on the verge of going into my discourse on the beauty and merits of growing African violets and how nice a hobby it would be for his wife. I was about to offer him a plant. Perhaps it was best I didn't as I might have been held with another charge against me — bribery!

When I finally arrived with my prize violets and supplies, I was treated with a little more respect by my mother. After all, she had to admit that the plants I brought were better looking than the "hairbrushes" on her window sills. The very next day I went to work on the plants and after a while, I began to think I had repotted every violet in the whole village. My mother must have called every Saintpaulia owner about the magic supplies I had brought from the USA. Since then I have sent supplies almost once a month to Sweden. The ladies are very impressed and their violets are doing so well with the different soil mixtures and the fertilizers. They also know how to remove the suckers, to repot, to get rid of the necks and to provide more humidity.

But, most of all, my mother is the talk of the village. She is the sole owner of very unusual "Saintpaulas" which no one else has. By now I am sure she has shared her treasures with friends and neighbors so that in this little Swedish village you will find a 'Frankie', a 'Tommie Lou', a 'Happy Harold', a 'Snoopy', and a 'Pocono Mountain' blooming their fool heads off.



(Photo by Burton)

CABARET, Shown in St. Louis by Mrs. M. Pozsgay

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND

Mrs. L. F. Lidiak
4503 Sinclair
Austin, TX 78756

Now that the flurry of spring shows and the "lazy, hazy, crazy, days of summer" are history, it is time to get back into the really serious spirit of violet growing. Between repotting the "oldies"; casting an eye toward a new variety that is just too lovely to pass up; and resuming serious club activities, do give a thought to what part you might play in further improving our beauties.

As growers we are still faced with pests/insects/diseases; we would like to see the colors become even more vibrant; the singles drop less; the petioles have more strength; the blossoms get ever larger — and the list goes on. The "inner workings" of violets, just like those of man, are still a great mystery for the most part, leaving a wealth of painstaking and extended research yet to be done.

When you look at one of your favorites and realize how very far it has come from its humble beginning, and you wish for it ever more health and beauty, just remember that is what Boyce Edens Research Fund is all about.

Contributions made from January 27, 1977 to May 26, 1977.

Potomac (VA) Council of AV Judges in lieu of speaker's fee to Judy Stroske .. \$	10.00
Ruth M. Morris in memory of Millie Blair	10.00
Albuquerque (NM) AVC	10.00
San Francisco (CA) friends in memory of Millie Blair	20.50
Greenville (SC) AVC	10.00
Helen Van Zele in memory of Percy F. Crane	10.00
Town and Country AVC Minot (ND) in memory of Marguerite Colton	5.00
First Austin (TX) AVS in appreciation to the Highland Mall Merchants' Association .	10.00
Dorothy C. Kahrmann in memory of Millie Blair	10.00
Green Thumb AVC Fayetteville, AR	5.00
AVS of Staten Island (NY) in memory of Dora Klett	15.00
AVS of Utah	10.00
Rainbow Violeteers (WI)	5.00
AVS of Palo Alto, CA	10.00
Rainbow AVC St. Louis, MO	5.00
First Arlington (TX) AVS in memory of Estelle Harris	10.00
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AVS of San Francisco, CA, in memory of Victor Constantinov	50.00

AVSA BOOSTER FUND

Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71106

The St. Louis, MO Convention/Show was an outstanding success. We had more entries than ever before, nearly 800, all quality plants. We have more members than ever before, nearly 27,000. Our program is growing, our magazine is growing and all this requires more and more support from our members.

You could help by honoring a cherished friend or a beloved relative or by celebrating a special day

or occasion with a contribution. Many of our speakers are contributing their speakers' fee and judges are endorsing their judges' expense checks to the BOOSTER FUND. AVSA is most grateful for all this and will be looking forward to hearing from you.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MAR. 1, 1977 to JUNE 1, 1977.

Mrs. C. A. Pickens, in lieu of speaker's fee from Floral Friends Study Group Garden Club, Baton Rouge, LA	\$10.00
Rainbow Violeteers, Menomonee Falls, WI ..	5.00
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Bergen Co. AVS of NJ, late show award ..	10.00
Shirley Goslee, New Orleans, LA, speaker's gift from JAVA, New Orleans, LA	10.00
Shirley Goslee, New Orleans, LA, speaker's gift from "Violets After Five", Baton Rouge, LA	20.00
Mrs. C. A. Pickens, in lieu of speaker's fee from Flower Growers Gp. Baton Rouge, LA ..	10.00
Mrs. Junaita Freeman, Tulsa, OK	1.00
Mrs. W. F. Anderson, in lieu of speaker's fee from Rainbow AVC of St. Louis, MO ..	10.00
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Mrs. E. Hansen, Jenkintown, PA, in lieu of judging expenses from Union Co. Chapter of AVSA	10.00
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Harriet T. Churchill, Rockport, ME. In memory of Percy F. Crane	25.00

OFFICERS' NAMES

Names of newly elected officers are to be sent to the Affiliate Chairman, NOT to the Editor. Officers' names are printed ONLY in the November Magazine.

**President
Carter
honored with
two new
plants by
Ronn Nadeau**

(Photos by Nadeau)



JIMMY CARTER

ROSALYN CARTER





Violets Galore
of
Georgia
Presents
Two Unique
Selections

(Photos by Schroeder)

DO'S JEAN

DO'S JUDY LYNN



She's Got 10 Green Thumbs!

By Donna Gayle Thompson
Staff Writer
The Rocky Mount Telegram
Rocky Mountain, NC

To many people, including me, African violets are a great love, a wonderful hobby, and a terrible weakness. I say "a terrible weakness" because violets are similar to so many other things in life — they may be habit forming.

But the African Violet Addict, unlike drug addicts, gossip addicts, and other such sad cases can do no harm to himself or others. He, or she, has quite a love for beauty, warmth, and happiness and these three things are what the violets are all about to those who grow them.

In Rocky Mount, I have found such a grower. She is Rena Hiatt, who has 20 years of violet sickness behind her and the ever present, ten green



Mrs. Hiatt and Marlene Stancil, a frequent visitor at the greenhouse, seem to agree that African violets are wonderful gifts for any occasion.



Rena Hiatt spends many hours in her backyard greenhouse. Here she's looking over one of the many plants that need her attention.

thumbs in front of her.

While talking about her interest in African violets, Mrs. Hiatt told me that five years ago she had them all over the house, in front of every window, and in every room.

It was at this point that her husband, Wayne, decided something had to be done to get the plants out of the house. With this thought, he went to work on their first greenhouse.

Upon completion of this particular greenhouse, Mrs. Hiatt soon had plants covering every inch of shelf space. As the violets grew in quantity, the heating bill soared and so did the cost of supplies. And what began as a hobby then became a part-time business.

Then due to a surge in growth and demand she had to move her African violets once again — to a newer greenhouse. This fiberglass structure was built to house approximately four thousand plants which would require her full-time attention.

As for help with the work, she says that Wayne also holds a great interest in the violets and is a good partner if she gets behind in her watering or repotting.

In addition to her work in the backyard green-



Working in the greenhouse not only involves watering and feeding. Here Mrs. Hiatt is busy separating a large plant that needs repotting.

house, Mrs. Hiatt can also be seen at Tarrytown

during the Arts and Crafts Fair held in November and the Lawn and Garden Show held in March. While these shows are taking place, she has the chance to meet and get to know others who share her love for African violets. At the same time, she sells her plants and gives some much needed advice to new and inexperienced growers.

For Mrs. Hiatt, the love and attention that her violets need can sometimes mean working in the greenhouse until midnight, or having someone come by as early as seven-thirty in the morning and as late as nine-thirty in the evening. She told me a story about one particular lady who called one night after nine. "I know it is late, but would you mind worrying with me, now?" the caller asked. "My spirits need lifting and a violet, is just the thing I need."

"African violets," says Mrs. Hiatt, "bring warmth and happiness to people, whether they are giving the plant or receiving it. Violets bring smiles when spirits are low and they make a wonderful gift for any occasion. For these reasons, I enjoy my work very much — at all hours, even the odd ones."

SOIL MIXES

(ED. NOTE: For benefit of those African violet growers who like to mix their own soils, a series of soil mixtures will be carried in the African Violet Magazine).

From Michigan

Marion Desmond, 23605 Valley Drive, Romulus, MI writes that she has been successful with the following mixture:

- 20 quarts Green Thumb potting soil
- 1 gal. sphagnum moss (ground)
- 1 gal. Krum (perlite)
- 10 pounds Cat's Pride (ground clay)

Ms. Desmond suggests that vermiculite may be used instead of sphagnum moss, since, she says, "coarse vermiculite makes the soil more aerated while the sphagnum moss makes the soil more soggy."

"Right now I'm using my formula with coarse vermiculite. I fill each pot 3/4 full with my formula and fill the remaining 1/4 of the pot with Coon Valley Soil. It's quite expensive and with many pots to fill, I just use 1/4 as much in each pot."

SOILLESS MEDIUM

- 2 parts vermiculite
- 2 parts perlite
- 1 part peat moss
- Few grains charcoal

When using the soilless medium always water with a liquid fertilizer (fertilizer + water) solution diluted 1/4 to 1/8 the recommended dosage.

From Indiana

Elinor Rodda, Box 6, Ossian, IN, says she has been growing African violets over 30 years and has had a lot of experience with soil mixes. Here's the one she recommends:

- 8 quarts Redi-earth
- 2 quarts perlite or perlom
- 2 Tablespoons dolomite of lime
- 2 Tablespoons potash rock
- 2 Tablespoons phosphate rock

Mix well and always use it moist. I also pot cuttings in this mix but do not feed them until they are ready to bud. All established plants are fed 1/8 strength at every watering, except during July and August, our hottest months, when feeding is discontinued. Blooms are abundant even in the darkest days of winter.

I also use this mix for everything I grow, including cacti, succulents, begonias, geraniums, ferns and all other gesneriads.



MARGARET ROSE, Shown in St. Louis by Martha Drury

(Photo by Burton)

BEGINNER'S COLUMN

Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson
RR# 1, Box 70
Tavares, Florida 32778



LACK OF BLOOM?

Cross-examine the situation!

African violet leaves can be pretty, especially when they lie flat and symmetrical but African violets without blossoms are a disappointment. In winter in northern areas when the sun shines too seldom, it is natural for plants to "rest" but actually they are not resting, it is simply that they are not getting sufficient light. Plants under fluorescent lights for the most part bloom almost constantly. If yours do not, ask yourself a few questions:

1. Do I feed? Nothing can live without food. Get a fertilizer that reads "For African Violets". If, for instance, it says "One teaspoon to one quart of water every two weeks" use one teaspoon to a gallon of water (in other words one-quarter strength) and use it each time you water.

2. How is my humidity? Humidity indicators are inexpensive and a good investment. Try to maintain a relative humidity of 40 to 60%. Here in Florida mine will sometimes go as high as 90% and the plants do not seem to mind but that 90% is because of our climate, not because I am doing anything to maintain it. To maintain try putting containers of water in between the plants or in a trough if you have one (do not allow the plants to stand in the water) or spray with a fine mist every day.

3. What do I do about cleansing? General sanitation is a must but the best part of cleansing is that the leaves may be washed. Yes, I know, there is a myth that no water must ever touch a leaf. However, they simply love it. Do not, I repeat, do not put the wet plant in the sun or you will have brown spots. Hold the plant sideways under tepid water at the sink and let it run gently over the outside leaves until they are clean. Plants breathe via their leaves and should be clean.

4. Do I put my plants in the proper size pots? The rule of thumb is a pot should be one-third the size of the diameter of a plant. Too large pots will cause soil to get too soaked and cause root rot. Pots that are too small restrict growth.

5. Do I cramp their style? Do I have the plants so close together they can't spread out or that

they touch one another? If you can't find more room, give some away.

6. Do I get rid of insects? Some growers spray periodically. I only spray when I have something to get rid of, which is seldom as I have a strict method of keeping new plants in isolation for at least a month.

7. How important is temperature? Very! On the low side 65° and on the high side 80° with 65° slowing down growth and 80° causing short petioles and lack of blossoms, when grown with such temperatures for a long time, 70° more or less is ideal.

8. What is my soil like? Is it hard as a rock? Do something about that. African violets like a loose porous soil with good drainage. It must not be extremely acid or alkaline. Read up on soil. You will learn a lot to advantage.

9. What kind of light do the plants have? Are they in the middle of a room where little light reaches them? Put them on the window sill where bright light will benefit them. In winter in northern climates they love the little sun they get but in the south lots of sun can bleach the leaves. If that happens, pull them back a bit or find another window where they do not get so much sun. If you can't find the right window sill it will help to put the plant under a regular incandescent lamp evenings.

10. Do I drown them? More plants are killed by overwatering than any other thing. Water when they are dry but do not wait until they wilt. Put your finger into the soil and if it is wet, wait. When dry, water until the water comes out the bottom of the pot and then wait until water is needed again. Do not ask a friend how often she waters and then do likewise. Her circumstances might be different than yours. In time you will develop a system but watch the seasons. They may need more water during a hot summer or even less if the humidity is very high or more in winter when the heat is on. Use tepid water and never use water from a water softening system. Rain water is the best.

Affiliate 'appenings

(NOTE TO PUBLICITY CHAIRMEN: Please, when sending typed articles concerning your shows, send the original copy to the EDITOR — not a carbon copy or copy-machined material.

Also PLEASE follow style used in following articles — then these do not have to be re-written for the Magazine.)

Award winners at the NAUGATONIC AVS "Violets Down Memory Lane", held in Stratford, CT, were as follows: Mrs. Joseph Adams of Shelton, Queen of Show, 'Becky', First Lady in Waiting, 'Flamingo', Junior Queen, 'Corpus Christi', Junior First Lady in Waiting, 'S. Diplotricha', Junior Second Lady in Waiting, 'Helioscope', arrangement artistic planting, AVSA Gold Rosette, 'Sea Breeze', 'Becky', 'Flamingo', theme award, President's Challenge Award, 'William Bruce', best semiminiature, 'Button Trinket', sweepstakes rosette (34 blue ribbons); Mrs. Newell Mallette of Shelton, runner-up to sweepstakes; Mrs. John Prokop of Shelton, second runner-up; Mrs. Harry Heverling of Watertown, 2nd Lady in Waiting, 'Sugar Blues'; Mrs. Eleanor Gorgens, smallest blue ribbon plant, 'Violetta'; Mrs. Herbert Young of Trumbull, award for her educational exhibit; Mrs. Arnold Haeussler of Trumbull, best mini, 'Tiny Blue'.

The CAPITAL DISTRICT AVS and the AVS OF ALBANY (Albany, New York) sponsored their annual show, "Happiness is Moving Forward With African Violets." Doris Purzycki and Bob Smith served as co-chairpersons. Winners in the horticulture division included: AVSA Gold Rosette: 'Valerie', 'Alouette', 'Garnet Elf', Queen of Show, 'Valerie', Queen runner-up, 'Our Joyce', Jr. Queen, 'Alouette', largest blooming plant, 'Our Joyce', best New York State origination, 'Our Joyce', Violet Carey; AVSA Purple Rosette, 'Night Magic', 'Triple Threat', 'Magic Splendor', sweepstakes runner-up, 2nd best New York State Origination, 'Night Magic', Ilse Prentsel; New York State Award for best collection of 3 miniatures, 'Tiny Tot', 'Baby Pink', and 'Tiny Blue', sweepstakes, Joyce Dick; Jr. Queen runner-up, 'Firebird', Iona Lynch; best CDAVS President's project plant, 'Sea Breeze', Mary Shufelt; best AVS of Albany President's project plant, 'Helene', Dorothy Smith; decorative class, first award, "Moving Forward Is Practicing Ecology" and sweepstakes runner-up, Connie Grasso; second award "Moving Forward Is Joining The Ecumenical Movement" and sweepstakes, Esther Hopper.

When ROYAL SAINTPAULIA CLUB of Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada, presented its 2nd annual show, "Violets in Autumn, Too," winners were as follows: Amateur Division: Mrs. Carole Mineault, best in show and best variegated, 'Tommie Lou', Mrs. Doris Murray, runner-up, Tinari's 'Apple Blossom Pink', best single orchid and lavender, 'Orchid Star', best double light to medium blue, 'Carla', best red or wine double, 'Bonus Babe', best two-tone and multi-color, 'Seafoam', best episcia, best terrarium, and most entries; Mrs. Renie Zylstra, sweepstakes (10 blue ribbons), best gesneriad other than episcias and columneas, 'Nematanthus Wettsteinii', best designs, "October Frost", "Falling Leaves", "Golden Harvest", and best in all design classes, "Golden Harvest", best arrangements, "Nature's Container", "Autumn Scene" and "Autumn in Miniature", best plant in unusual container, best semiminiature, 'Pink Fairy'; Mrs. Grace Harrison, best single dark blue and purple, 'R. Elfriede', best single pink, 'Meredith'; Mrs. Peggy Gillies, best single two-tone

and multi-color, 'R. Violetta'; Mrs. Ann Moffett won best single geneva, 'Star Ruby'; Mr. E. A. Forbes, best double geneva, 'Delft Imperial', best plant of Canadian origin, 'Andrew Ian'; Mrs. Thelma Brown, best double pink, 'Strawberry Shortcake'; Mrs. Nan Scott, best double orchid and lavender, 'Carefree'; Mrs. Florrie Moffett, best double two-tone and multi-color, 'Silver Celebration'; Mrs. Marion Sear, best arrangement and best over-all in arrangement classes, "Wild Geese Flying"; Mrs. Winnifred Thomson, best arrangement, "Violet Thanksgiving"; advanced division: Mrs. Phyllis Hall, AVSA Gold Rosette, 'Poodle Top', 'Lullaby' and 'William Bruce'; The plants winning most votes in popularity contest were 'Brigadoon', 'Serenity', 'Pink Ribbon', 'William Bruce' and 'Cathy T'.

The UTICA AVS held its 23rd annual show in Utica, NY. Some of the top awards were as follows: Amateur Division: Estelle Hutchins, Jr. Queen, 'James Auther', runner-up to Jr. Queen, 'Serenity'; sweepstakes, (11 blue ribbons); best decorative class, best miniature, 'Twinkle Toes'; best Lyon Origination, 'Mini Trails', sweepstakes, Commercial Division: Mary's House of Violets (Mary Dimitriadis) Queen, 'Amazing Grace', runner-up to Jr. Queen, 'R. Mars', sweepstakes, (21 blue ribbons); Yerman's African Violets (Rowell Yerman), runner-up to Queen, 'Beaumont', Jr. Queen, 'Flamingo', AVSA Gold Rosette, 'Pink Philly', 'Lavender Delight', 'Flamingo'.

"TAVSSI Comes of Age" was the theme of the 18th annual show of THE AVS OF STATEN ISLAND, at the Great Kills Moravian Church, S.I., NY. Wm. Sorensen was Chairman of the Show and Mrs. Adolph Gundlach Co-Show Chairman. Winners of the awards were: Raymond Dooley, best in show, 'Vern's Delight', 3rd best, 'Pixie Blue', which also won best trailer; AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette) 'Delft Imperial', 'Watercolor', 'Vern's Delight', 2nd best NY State Collection of semimini's, 'Little Jim', 'Little Chrissy', 'Royal Trinket', which was best semimini plant, best terrarium, runner-up to best artistic planting, best bubble bowl, best single blossom plant, 'Jimmy Watson', sweepstakes (73 blue ribbons) in Hort. Div., 6 blue ribbons in design division and most best in class trophy ribbons; Ann Dooley, 2nd best plant, 'Tippy Pink', which was best mini; The President's Award, 'Rhapsodie Elfriede', 2nd best NY State origination Rosette, 'Like Wow', 1st best NY State Collection of mini's, 'Tippy Pink', 'Tip Toe', 'Little Star', 1st best collection of semimini's of NY State, 'Little Chrissy', 'Wild Lemon', and 'Pink Frou Frou', runner-up to sweepstakes (35 blue ribbons) in Hort. Div.; Edward Bradford, best variegated plant, and best NY State tri-color Rosette, 'Bashful Betsy'; TAVSSI Mystery plant, 'Jason', AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette) 'Jean', 'Pink Blueberry', 'Step Up', best artistic planting, and runner-up to best arrangement; Fran Strobach, best windowsill, 'Firebird', Evelyn Lawless, best novice, 'The King'; Christine Leppard, best arrangement and best in class for the 12" arrangement; Walter Hunt, best miniature arrangement; Sally Hannam, runner-up to best mini arrangement; Alice Ann Thomp-

kins, a 1 year membership, 'Sparkle Plenty'; and Irene Olsen, 'Rhapsodie Ruth'.

"Getting It All Together" was the theme for the "77" show of the AVS OF PHILADELPHIA, PA, with E. Hansen and Jim Klawitter as Chairpersons. Winners were: E. Hansen, sweepstakes in horticulture; best plant under 12", best double white, best Granger's original, 'Gr. Cameo Queen', 2nd best plant over 12" 'Gail', 2nd best plant under 12", 'Judy C', best double blue, 'Frankie', best double pink, 'Margaret', best double red, 'Tina', best variegated, 'Lucky Lilac', 2nd best AVSA collection, (Purple Rosette), 'The King', 'Gail', 'Lavender Tempest', best New Jersey Council AVC collection, 'Pink Viceroy', 'Royalaire', 'Judy Garland', best gesneriad, 'E. Pink Brocade', best hobby, needlepoint pillow; Jim Klawitter, 2nd place sweepstakes; best in show and best plant over 12", 'Amazing Grace', best AVSA collection (Gold Rosette), 'Amazing Grace', 'Jason', 'Helene', best two-tone double, 'Purple Crest', best miniature, 'Little Jim', best blue ribbon plant not receiving any other award, 'Helene', best single blossom, 'White Elf', Stella Urbanski; best trailer, 'Violet Trail', Blair Capriotti; best in novice group and best Lyon's plant, 'Inky Pink', Linda Gilliam; best unusual container, 'Great Find', Linda Gilliam, Natalie Capriotti and Tom Seiler, each with 4 blue and 1 red ribbons, tied for best and runner-up in sweepstakes design; Natalie Capriotti, best artistic planting, 'Shore Line', best arrangement, 'Symphony', best artistic planting, 'Tranquility'; Tom Seiler, best bubble bowl; best dish garden; and best arrangement, 'The Melting Pot'.

THE POMONA VALLEY AVS held its 24th annual show at the Church of the Brethren, La Verne, CA. The theme was "The World of Violets". Winners were: Mrs. Cheradah Lewis, best in show, "California Sunrise", best variegated foliage, 'Californis Sunrise', sweepstakes in horticulture; Mrs. Pat Tusing, 2nd best, 'Painted Cloud', best geneva edged, 'Painted Cloud', best small plant, 'Mary D', and best cultural educational lights; George Crouchet best double blossom, 'Monique', best semiminature, 'Little Dogwood', and AVSA Informational Education; Mrs. Bertha Haldeman, Southern California Council Award for hybridized plant, 'Lilac Time': Hybridizer, Mrs. Dorothy Parker, best hybridized plant, best miniature, 'Red Spot', and best gesneriad, 'Cleopatra'; Art Hill, sweepstakes gesneriad; Mrs. Wanda Jones, 'Little Red'; Mrs. Lois Mueller, best in design division and sweepstakes in design division; Mrs. Rosie Frank, 2nd best in design division and best arrangement; Mrs. Lucille Gambs, best artistic planting; Miss Kim Lewis, best novice, 'Blue Excitement'; Maurice Haldeman, 2nd best novice, 'The King', 3rd best novice, 'Miss Violet'; Mrs. Mae Root, best trailer, 'Violet Trail'; Mrs. Marna Streipeus best theme for arrangement. Mrs. Pat Andrews won the best terrarium.

THE SILVERMINE AVS held its 4th annual judged show, "Violet Casino", with Mrs. Glenn Jackson of Danbury as show chairman. Award winners were: best in show, 'Becky', runner-up, 'Ballet Marta'; AVSA Gold Rosette, 'Becky', 'Ballet Marta', 'Cordelia', Ralph Goddard of Stamford; best gesneriad, 'Columnea Early Bird', sweepstakes (19 blue ribbons), AVSA Purple Rosette, 'Tina', 'Mystic'. 'Peach Frost', Mrs. Joseph Stramandole of Darien; best window grown, 'Flamingo', best semiminature, 'Washington Pink'; Educational Table award, Micheal Luongo of Norwalk; best trailer, 'Seventh Heaven', runner-up to sweepstakes (14 blue ribbons), Mrs.

John Kosik, Jr. of Stamford; best artistic design, Mrs. Anthony Cheska of Stamford; best arrangement, Miss Lori Holomakoff of South Norwalk; best novice, 'Chickadee', Mrs. David Lee of West Redding; best miniature, 'Tiny Pink', Glenn Jackson of Danbury; Theme award, "Violet Casino", George Holomakoff of South Norwalk and John Kosik, Jr., of Stamford; special award, Society's exhibit on seedlings, one of the Society's projects.

THE COPPER CITY AVS held their 22nd annual show, "Happiness is — 'A Parade of Violets'," with Mrs. Gunter (Elsa) Kiepert as show chairman in Rome, NY. Winners were: Over 12", 'Amazing Grace', Mrs. James (Joan) Williams; over 12" runner-up, 'Night Magic'; under 12", 'The King', under 12" runner-up, 'Grand Entrance', sweepstakes, (24 blue ribbons), New York State Award, 'Night Magic', AVSA (Purple Rosette), 'Cameo Queen', 'Faith', 'The Parson', New York State Miniature Collection, 'High Stepper', 'Midget Mischief', 'Blue Sprite', Mrs. Wilson (Annabelle) Hart; sweepstakes runner-up, (20 blue ribbons), New York State Award, 2nd prize, 'Grand Entrance', AVSA (Gold Rosette), 'Lavender Delight', 'Grand Entrance', 'Our Joyce', Rowell Yerman; artistic queen, 1st, '200th Anniversary', Mrs. Harold (Cecelia) Butts; artistic queen, 2nd, 'Along the Way', Mrs. Lloyd (Florence) Davis; artistic sweepstakes, (5 blue ribbons), Mrs. Robert (Ruth) Glur; artistic sweepstakes, (4 blue ribbons), Mrs. Rowell (Virginia) Yerman.

THE COLUMBUS (OHIO) AVS held its annual show, "Violets for all Seasons" with the following winners: AVSA Collection Award, 'Top Dollar', 'Like Wow', 'Lisa'; sweepstakes; best single pink, 'Lisa'; Hulda Evans Award, 'Bellringer': best of Tommie Lou Family 'Top Dollar'; best fantasy, 'Inky Pink'; best coral, 'Coral Caper'; best Rhapsodie, Ballet or Englert, 'Lisa'; largest bloom, 'Wild Country'; best Hawley cultivar, 'Bellringer', Mrs. Mildred Lusk; Queen of Show 'Firebird', mini sweepstakes, Chairman's Award, 'Winters Dream'; best double white, 'Artic Mist', best geneva edge, 'Firebird', largest plant, 'Superfection', best white miniature, 'Ping Pong', Mrs. Evelyn Grinstead; 2nd place AVSA Collection Award, 'Peach Frost', 'Artic Mist', 'Lavender Delight', semiminature Queen, 'Snow Blush', President's Award, 'Beth', best variegated other than Tommie Lou foliage, 'Half & Half', Mrs. Elaine Cummins; Ohio State Collection Award, 'Brigadoon', 'Blue Reverie', 'Sylvan Blue', Jr. Sweepstakes, best double red, 'Smiles', Mrs. Thelma Miller; 2nd place, Ohio State Collection Award, 'Purple Joy', 'Gene Garner', 'Sweetheart Blue', Mrs. Mildred Lusk; Princess of Show, 'Lavender Delight', best two-tone, multicolor other than fantasy, 'Lavender Delight', best mini Sinningia, 'Tinkerbells', Mrs. Emily Savage; Novice Award, Gertrude Fecker; Mini Queen, 'Little Red', Jr. mini sweepstakes, best small plant (std.), 'Love Is', best fantasy miniature, 'Little Precious', best trailer, 'Happy Trail', best artistic planting, best terrarium, Mrs. Fran Lane; best specimen plant or trailer in unusual container, Mrs. Viola Tucker; best blooming Episcia, 'Pink Brocade', best handcraft, Mrs. Peg Hamilton; best non-blooming Episcia, 'Helen O', best dish garden, Mrs. Nevada Boone; best gesneriad other than Episcia, 'A. Obriainca', Harford Renick; best arrangement, Mrs. Hildred Bump. Mrs. Lois Noble was show chairman.

THE HOUSTON GESNERIAD SOCIETY held its first annual show and plant sale, "Nature Charms". There were 132 horticulture entries with 11 arrangements and artistic plantings. Show chairman was Mrs. James Papas and club

president is Mrs. Robert Riquelmy. Winners were: AVSA Collection (Gold), 'Happy Harold', Granger's 'Jim Dandy', and 'Marge'; best Saintpaulia, 'Grangers Jim Dandy', best semiminiture, 'Beginner's Luck', and sweepstakes, Mrs. Larry Myers; best gesneriad was *Columnnea* 'Early Bird', and second best collection (purple), 'Annie Mae', Manelta's 'Frosted Rose' and 'Katheline', Mrs. Edwin Glaser; best miniature, 'Midget Valentine', Mrs. Ralph Ritchie; best terrarium, Mrs. John Golla; best artistic planting, Mrs. Richard Brogdon; best arrangement, Mrs. Don Roose, Jr.

THE TWILIGHT AVS of Austin, TX held its show, "Violets and Shamrocks" with Mary Ann Nelson as show chairman. Winners were: Best of Show, 'Dress Parade', best variegated, 'Mr. Gus', Bessie Hatherly; 1st AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Tina', 'Delta Dawn', 'Manelta's Fanfare', horticulture sweepstakes, artistic sweepstakes, best double pink, 'Fresh Pink', best arrangement, "By the Sea", Mary Ann Nelson; best mini, 'Trail Along', best Texas hybrid, 'Janey Briscoe', Kathy Center; best edged blossom, 'Texas Charmer', best plant grown by a man, 'Tommie Lou', Jim Rogers; best artistic planting, "Irish Spring", Pat Gorzycki; best unusual container, 'Emperor', Mollie Bernhardt.

The 7th annual show of the **DELAWARE AVS** was held with Rose Marie McMann and Bessie Pyle as co-chairmen. Winners were: Best AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Ruth Carey', 'Mark', 'Garnet Elf', Show Queen, 'Garnet Elf', sweepstakes, Marie Stenmiskie; sweepstakes runner-up, 2nd Best AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Bloomin' Fool', 'Wild Country', 'Serenity', show princess, 'Mystical Blue', Elizabeth Benke; 2nd sweepstakes runner-up, mini sweepstakes, mini queen, 'Tiny Gypsy', gesneriad queen and best hanging basket, *Columnnea* 'Early Bird', best miniature collection, Rose Marie McMann; 3rd sweepstakes runner-up, best blooming gesneriad, 'Codonanthe Carnosa', 2nd best terrarium, Lillian Crewe; gesneriad sweepstakes, best blooming gesneriad, 'Chirita Sinensis', best terrarium, Bessie Pyle; semimini queen, 'Tricky Blue', best semimini collection, best gesneriad mini, *Sinningia* 'Snowflake', Barbara Borleske; horticulture novice sweepstakes, best in class, 'Lilian Jarrett', Anita Bell, a one-year member; best unusual container 'Pixie Blue', Donna Focht; best unusual container with gesneriad, *Columnnea* 'Maryann', Edith Rogler.

TOP CHOICE AVS of Shreveport, LA held its fifth annual show, "Happiness is Violets" with Mrs. Glenn Reeves as show chairman. Winners were: best in show, 'Nancy Reagan', Award of Merit, 'May Morn'; 1st AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Nancy Reagan', 'May Morn', 'Eternal Snow', Bermas Plastics Award, 1st 'Becky', 3rd 'Red Buttons', Reeves Award, best 'Silver Pinafore', 3rd place; Best Reed's House of Violets plant, 'May Morn', Tom's Award, best standard, 'Corpus Christi', President's award, best variegated, 'Nancy Reagan', Tube Craft Award, 'Country Gentleman', 'May Morn', 'Eternal Snow', Nature Garden's Nursery Award, best geneva, 'Mystic Moment', Champion's Award, best 'Plain and Fancy', sweepstakes award (Most blue ribbons), Mrs. T. K. Thomas; Honorable Mention Award, 'Mark', Tri-Color Rosette, best in Artistic Planting, Tom's Award, best miniature, third place, 'High Stepper', Mrs. O. P. Wilson; 2nd AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Painted Orchid', 'Garnet Elf', 'Peach Frost', largest plant, 'Painted Orchid', Reeves Award Best, 'Silver Pinafore', Tom's semiminiture, 'Sweet Pixie', Mrs. M. L. Harwell; best in arrange-

ments (Tri-Color Rosette) Mrs. David Magill; best gesneriad (other than Saintpaulias) Episcia 'Faded Jade', best double pink with green foliage, 'Delta Dawn', Mrs. W. M. Plaster; Bermas Plastics Award (2nd place), 'Big Deal', Mrs. John L. Hoppe; Tom's Award, best stand 2nd place, 'Satin Sheen', best white, 'Clipper', Mrs. Warren Rosenbaum; Schedule Chairman Award, best semiminiture, 'Little Delight', Staging Chairman Award, best miniature, 'Happy Trails', Mrs. Glenn Reeves; Reeves Award, best Silver Pinafore, 2nd place, Mrs. Carl Rothwell; Tom's Award, best semiminiture, 2nd place, 'Red Dragon', Mrs. C. D. Attaway.

The Green Rosette and the Blue Rosette Show Awards were prominent in the antique setting of **THE AFRICAN VIOLET STUDY CLUB OF HOUSTON'S** show, "Violets Are Heirlooms", chaired by Bebe Glazer. Top awards were: Best of Show, 'Diana Purple', Flo Brogdon; 1st runner-up, 'Sailors Dream', AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette) 'Plain and Fancy', 'Margie', and 'Happy Harold', 10 other classes with 'G. G. Santa Maria', 'Blue Power', 'The Parson', 'Val's White', 'Mrs. Greg', 'Annie Mae', 'Our Dawn', 'Little Red', 'S. Ionantha', and 'Miriam Steel', Susan Myers; best of show 2nd runner-up, 'Liberty Bell'; horticultural sweepstakes AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'The King', 'Open Face', and 'Purple Popcorn', and 11 other classes with 'Candy Cane', 'Pink Pedro', 'Val's Sweet Dreams', 'Green Dawn', 'Coral Caper', 'Athena', 'Edith Flory Sport', 'Crafty Treasure', 'E. Lady Lou Sport', and 'Strep. Constant Nymph', Winston Smith; best artistic planting, best terrarium with 'Pixie Blue'; best arrangement, Billie Golla; unusual container and "Far Away Places", Mollie Ritchie; 'May Morn' and 'By the Light of the Silvery Moon'; Elaine Riquelmy; best white-blush, 'White Elf', 'Little Brown Jug', Bebe Glazer; best two-tone, 'Double Raspberry', best variegated foliage, 'Pedro', semiminiture, 'Red Dragon', Pat Denny; best multicolor, 'Reed Careless Love', best small standard, 'Empress', Julie Wehle; best novice, 'Lime Crisp', Susan Johnson; Episcia, 'E. Libaldne', Susan Schorre; 'Old Memories', Educational Exhibit, Sally Blalock and the AVSA table by Barbara Ashley.

"Paradise of Beauty" was the theme of the **ATCHAFALYA AVS'** 2nd annual judged show which was a sea of loveliness at the Municipal auditorium. All in all the exhibited plants were a testimony of what enthusiastic club members had learned and succeeded with proofs of untiring efforts and zeal in growing their favorite flower. For a two-year-old club it was an unusual accomplishment of a beautiful display of over 400 violets.

A breathtaking panorama of hundreds of violets in full bloom and a riot of color marked the annual show of the **AV CULTURE CLUB** of Port Arthur, TX. Winners were: Queen of Show, 'Blue Monday', 1st AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette) 'Rambling Rose', 'Becky', 'Blue Monday', Mrs. Percy Broussard; Junior Queen, 'Flamingo'. 2nd AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Tina', 'Susan Sweet', 'Texas Blue Treasure', Dixie Rosette, 'Top Angel', 'Annie Mae', 'May Morn', horticulture sweepstakes, (37 blue ribbons) Mrs. C. J. Ganson; best mini, 'Mexicali Rose', Mrs. Charles Dattalo; best gesneriad, *Columnnea* 'Early Bird', Mrs. John R. Chatelain; sweepstakes in design, Mrs. L. P. Chauvin.

The **MONTGOMERY (AL) AVS'** 7th annual show, "There's No Business Like Show Business", resulted in the following awards: Best in Show, 'Sweet Honesty', 2nd

Best AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Blue Reverie', 'Red Flair', 'Joan Van Zele', sweepstakes runnerup, Nancy Therrell; AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Peak O' Pink', 'Vern's Queen', 'French Lilac', 2nd best DAVS, 'Nancy Kelly', 'My Sweetie Pie', 'Delta Dawn', 2nd Best in Show, 'Ruby', Sarah Howard; Best Dixie Collection, 'Norlina', 'Delta Dawn', 'Nancy Kelly', Myrt Sisher; unusual container, 'Candy', Elizabeth Fuller; best mini 'Florida Snows', Donald Dunbar; best artistic planting, Eleanor Cartwright; best arrangement, Doris Till; best square terrarium, Janet Baker.

THE BRAZOS VALLEY AVC'S second annual show, "March of Blooms", with Dottie Wilson as show chairman, was held with the following winners: Best in Show, 'Blue Boy', 2nd Best, 'Christmas Holly', runner-up to sweepstakes (19 blue ribbons), 1st AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Peach Frost', 'Autumn Sky', 'Mister Gus', best single blossom, 'Creekside Moonbeams', best purple, 'Autumn Sky', best pink, 'Strawberry Shortcake', best two-toned, 'Peach Frost', best variegated, 'Mister Gus', best trailer, 'Violet Trailer', Dottie Wilson; sweepstakes (23 blue ribbons), best artistic planting, 2nd best artistic planting, best red blossom, 'Fire Sprite', best semi-mini, 'Button Trinket', Candy Phillips; best artistic arrangement, best mini, 'Candy', best in novel container, 'Little Red Devil', best Texas hybridized plant, 'Geronimo', Linda Ray; best white blossom, 'White Madonna', best sport, 'Emperor Sport', best project plant, 'Manelta's Frosted Rose', Evelyn Woods; best geneva edged, 'R. Audrey', best species, 'Sinningia Cardinalis', Mrs. John H. Jones; 2nd best artistic arrangement, Alva Kessler; best plant grown by junior member, 'Top Sail', Cari Ray.

Mrs. J. Y. Bogusa walked away with most awards at the **BATON ROUGE (LA) AVS** show "Violets Look To The Future", held on the LSU campus. She was winner of Best in Show, 'Starshine', 2nd sweepstakes runner-up with 31 blue ribbons, AVSA 1st Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Delft Imperial', 'Garnet Elf', 'Starshine', best variety, 'Starshine'. Other winners were: 2nd best in show, 'Frankie', best terrarium, best in class, 'Val's Sweet Dream', Mrs. Shirley D. Vogler; sweepstakes runner-up (37 blue ribbons), Mrs. J. S. Gremillion; best "Kissing Cousin", Episcia 'Cleopatra', Mrs. Herman Cormier; best semimini, 'Suzy's Gertha', Mrs. Thomas Micehlli, Tricolor rosette in design, 'A Walk on Mars', Mrs. Warren Plauche.

THE AVS OF SOUTH BAY held its show, "Violets For Milady". Awards were as follows: 1st AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), Vern's 'Delight', 'Husky', and 'Blue Excitement', best in show and tricolor, Richter's 'Wedge-wood', 2nd best in show, 'Miriam Steel', best single, 'Husky' and largest blue ribbon plant, Vern's 'Delight', Northern California Council award, 'Frosted Plum', 'Mighty Mini', and 'Westdale Purple Mountain'; aquamatic division, first place, 'Mrs. Greg', Mrs. Anne Jantzen; second, 'Pocono Mountain', Mrs. Jean Rand, third, 'Purple Enchantment', Mrs. Alice Barger; sweepstakes, best semiminiature, 'Dardevil', best unusual container, best standard trailer, 'Violet Trail', and best bubble bowl, Mrs. Barbara Elkin; best miniature, 'Little Red', Mrs. Jean Rand; best variegated, 'Lillian Jarret', Mrs. Anne Kadack, best novice, 'Copper Tips', best seedling, Mrs. Virginia Pirie; best miniature trailer, 'Tiny Pink Bells', best terrarium, and best arrangement, Mrs. Lillian Chetelat; best gesneriad, 'Streptocarpus Cape Primrose', Mrs. Wylda Mason; and best artistic planting, Mrs. Jackie Davis.

Winners in the **RED RIVER AVS** show "Texas Violet Trails", held in Sherman, TX, were as follows: Best AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Eternal Snow', 'Sylvan Blue', 'Carnelot', best in show, 'Starburst', Mrs. O. E. McFarland of Denison; 2nd best AVSA Collection, (Purple Rosette), 'Rebecca', 'Nancy Reagan', 'Eternal Snow', 2nd Best in Show, Horticultural sweepstakes (17 blue ribbons), club project, 'Sylvan Blue', Mrs. Howard Bridges; best mini, 'Window Blue', Mrs. Bob Hargesheimer; sweepstakes tie design, Mrs. Martin White of Denison, Mrs. Byron Davis, creativity rosette, Mrs. Henry Duncan; best dish garden, "Shipwreck", Mrs. Hubert Stolle; best terrarium, Mrs. White; educational exhibit, Mrs. Cecil Stevens, Mrs. Walter Stark, Mrs. Steve Langford, Mrs. Roger M. Davis and Mrs. Bridges, show co-chairmen; Mrs. Tony Bruno of Denison, president.

THE WHITEHAVEN AVC of Memphis, TN held its first show and distributed AVSA culture sheets to the many persons who attended. A plant sale was held under the direction of Lynnette Conroy, club president, of Byhalia, MI. In addition to the display of African violets, there were terrariums and dish gardens.

The plant sale and show, the very first held by the **AVS OF GREATER TULSA, OK** netted the club nearly \$1,900. Plants were all sold — down to the last leaf. In the show teenager Alan Campbell took most of the awards. Award winners were as follows: Tricolor ribbon, 'Poodle Top', best miniature, 'Tiny Gypsy', best standard, 'Poodle Top', Judges Horticulture Award, 'Elisia', educational exhibit and Alan Campbell. Judges' Award; sweepstakes, Best AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Venetian Lace', 'Vern's Dandy', 'Blue Storm', Dorothy Harris; 2nd AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Shining Plumage', 'Double Black Cherry', 'Majestic', Kay Evans; best semi, 'Window Lace', Donna Tharp; best variegated, 'Silver Crest', Marilyn Campbell; artistic Tricolor, Jean Chelsea; artistic entry, Labon Crather.

Theme of the 28th annual show of the **AVS OF ROCHESTER, NY** was "Violets for All Seasons." Co-Chairpeople were Elaine Roth and Pat Red Elk under the direction of Phillip Johnson. Roy Roth designed the Court of Honor with the assistance of Larry Van Dam. Following are the awards: best in show, 'Mystic Moment', Eileen Johnson; runner-up, 'Peach Frost', Margaret Booth; Junior best in show, 'Pixie Blue', sweepstakes runner-up, Elaine Roth; runner-up, 'Tippie Pink', Nancy Merzki; sweepstakes, Thelma Hansen; best in design, 'Spring Delight', Mrs. Arthur Barnes; runner-up, 'Fall Splendor', Nancy Merzki. Over 450 guests attended the showing and 15 new memberships were obtained.

Theme of the 19th annual judged show of the **NORTH SHORE AVS OF LONG ISLAND** held in Greenlawn, L.I., NY was "Merry May of Violets". Mrs. Alfred Tirzmalis of Northport was show chairman. Show winners were as follows: Queen of Show, 'Mary C', largest African violet, 'Mary C', best AVSA Collection, (Gold Rosette), 'Mary C', 'Zeta' and 'Frankie', horticulture sweepstakes, best gesneriad in an unusual container, 'E. Filigree', 2nd best gesneriad, 'E. Cleopatra', Helen Strnad runner-up to Queen, 'Snoopy', best variegated, 'Tommie Lou', best semiminiature, 'Snoopy', best plant in aquamatic planter, 'Paris', best L.I. originations, 'Dina', horticulture sweepstakes runner-up, Julia Hieronymi; best miniature, 'Midget Valentine', best miniature collection, NYS, 'Midget Valentine', 'Snowbells Sport', 'Tiny Gypsy', 2nd best aqua-

matic planter, 'Granada', Jane Weber; best Rhapsodie, 'R. Sophia', best gesneriad, 'Streptocarpus Maasson's White', Stella Sakellarides; best NYS origination, 'Midget Bon Bon', best artistic planting, 'A Band of Gold', design division runner-up, Gail Puskas; 2nd best NYS origination, 'Amazing Grace', Melanie Weber; club project, 'Corpus Christi', Jean Johnson; best arrangement, 'New Beginnings', design division sweepstakes, Patricia Taylor; best terrarium, Claire Rosenberg; best dish garden, Joanna Rohrlack; best bottle garden, Donna Boos; best bubble bowl, Russell Van Houten; best African violet in unusual container, Barbara Demeterio; best junior class, 'Tawny Rose', Margaret Rutmayer.

The TAMPA (FL) AVS held its 2nd annual show, "Violets Heavenly in Seven and Seventy", with Carol Walker of Tampa as show chairman. Awards were as follows: Best in Show, 'R. Ruby', Esther Neill; best under 12", 'B. Lisa', Bobbi Close; AVSA Best Collection, (Gold Rosette), 'B. Lisa', 'B. Marta', 'Peach Frost', sweepstakes, best artistic planting, Norma Leto; 2nd Best AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Tina', 'Shag', 'B. Meta', Carol Walker; best single pink, 'B. Anna', best single red, 'R. Ruby', best single lavender, 'Spider', best single multicolor, 'Garnet Elf', best double purple 'Dbl. Purple Prince', best double med. blue, 'Delft Rosette', best double pink, 'B. Lisa', best dark pink, 'Pinks-A-Poppin', best double red, 'B. Erica', best double lavender, 'Lydia', best double two-tone, 'R. Barbara', best variegated foliage, 'Mr. Gus', best trailer, 'Trail Along', best sport, 'Like Wow Sports', best species, 'S. Ionantha', best Armacost original, 'Mermaid', best terrarium, dish garden and miniature arrangement, Dora Lee Dorsey; best large arrangement, Melanie Holland; best medium arrangement, best card table arrangement, Margaret Ritchie; special awards, educational exhibit and awards display.

THE AVS OF SAN FRANCISCO held its annual show, "Violet Carousel", under the chairmanship of Mrs. Sally Smith and co-chairman, Miss Frances McMahon. Winners were: Mrs. Sally Smith, best in show and best double award, 'Crimsunny', best white, 'Miriam Steel', best AVSA Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Jason', 'Gail', 'Tina'; best Constantinov introduction, 'Jolly Roger', which also took 3rd place in the Northern California Council Rosette Award; Mrs. Cecile Ambler sweepstakes with 27 blue ribbons, best variegated foliage, 'Heather Blue', best semiminature, 'Barr's Blue Bird', 2nd place in Northern California Council Rosette Awards, 'Delectable', unusual container, 'Happy Trail'; Ted Khoe, 1st runner-up to sweepstakes with 23 blue ribbons, best single, best miniature and 2nd runner-up to best in show, 'Tiny Gypsy', 1st in the Northern California Council Rosette Awards, 'Westdale Velvet'; Cy Yee, 1st runner-up to best in show, 'Mary C', best gesneriad, 'Nematanthus Tropicana'; Mrs. Jean Goss, novice award, 'Blue Storm'; Louis Ambler, standard trailer award, 'Crafty Farmer', best mini semitrailer, 'Pixie Blue'; Mrs. Muriel Warwick, (3 blue ribbons) design division Blair Perpetual Trophy, 'Picnic Times' in the artistic classes and 'Merry Go Round' in the arrangement classes. The attractive AVSA promotional table also sold 43 new AVSA memberships.

The FIRST NEW ORLEANS (LA) AVS held its 5th annual show, "Love Is". Winners were: AVSA Best Collection, (Gold Rosette), 'Blue Storm', 'Nancy Reagan', 'Gail', Queen of Show, 'Gail', sweepstakes, Lee Ann Alexander; AVSA 2nd Best Collection, (Purple Rosette),

'Tina', 'Becky', 'Sylvan Blue', Gloria Fayard; Opposite Queen, 'Parson's Love', Rubecraft Award, best single white, 'Starshine', Barbara Sisk; best miniature, 'Little Red Wagon', best club project plant of Max Maas 'Carole', Jeannette Domiano; best semiminature, 'Little Jim', Penny Brenner; best Reed introduction, 'Annie Lae', Mary Carter; Tricolor in arrangement, Barbara Miller; Tricolor in artistic planting, Marie Knoblock.

The 30th annual show of the AVS OF SPRINGFIELD, PA "And the Violets Sing" was held with the following winners: Best in artistic classes, "Me and My Shadow", Peg Rios; AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Garnet Elf', 'Becky', 'Frankie', AVS of Springfield Collection, 'Don', 'Starshine', 'Blue Fairy Tales', best of show, 'Frankie', sweepstakes runner-up, with 38 blue ribbons, Moleta Barbehann; sweepstakes with 46 blue ribbons, best miniature, 'Double Take', runner-up to best in show, 'Double Take', Emlee McLaughlin; top honors in "Kissin Cousins" classes (9 blue ribbons), Lillie Meyers.

THE CLIFTON AVS held its 9th annual show "Carnival of Violets", in Clifton, NJ, with Beatrice Alstein club president, as show chairman and Kathy Kulesa as co-chairman. Awards were as follows: AVSA Best Collection, (Gold Rosette), 'R. Denise', 'R. Ruby', 'R. Mercury', NJ Council of AVC Award, 'The King', 'Ivory Buttons', 'Jim Dandy', Show Queen and best Rhapsodie, 'R. Denise', 4th best plant, 'R. Mercury', sweepstakes, B. Alstein; 2nd best plant, 'Rosebud', best design runner-up, K. Kulesa; 3rd best plant, 'R. Maft', Karen Lynch; sweepstakes runner-up, best miniature, 'Blue Sprite', best hybrid trailer, 'Lucky Lou', P. Groff; best design, Betty Haynes; best non-member, 'Bergen County's Lila Baxter', Barbara Howells; best semimini, 'Little Jim', Ellen Byrne. A total of 236 exhibits was entered by 23 members and six non-members.

THE UPPER PINELLAS AVS of Largo, FL held its 18th annual show, "Violets—Nature's Gift", with the following winners: best in show, 'Colorado Knight', first runner-up, 'Delft Imperial', AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Colorado Knight', 'Tommie Lou', 'Delft Imperial', Mrs. Andrew Suder; second runner-up to best in show, 'Forever White', third runner-up to best in show, 'Marta', AVSA Award (Purple Rosette), 'Rebecca', 'Marta', 'Forever White', best artistic arrangement (tricolor award) "Spring in the Woods", special award for violet educational table, Mrs. Russell Yawger; best under 12", 'Pixie Blue', best miniature trailer, 'Pixie Blue', best miniature arrangement (three inches), best in unusual container, 'Crafty Farmer', Mrs. William Zane; best miniature, 'Calico Kitten', Mrs. Cheryl Atkins; best dish garden, best shadow box, Mrs. Royal Bratton; best semiminature trailer, 'Bambino', Mrs. Elaine Kiphart; best semiminature trailer, 'Trail Along', best novice, 'Gigi', Mrs. Mary Glen Campbell; best gesneriad, 'Streptocarpus Constant Nymph', Mrs. Karen Peters; sweepstakes award with 27 blue ribbons, special award for educational table, "Other Gesneriads", Mrs. Roy Raines; best standard trailer, 'Violet Trail', Edward Hartley; best club project, 'Red Flair', Mrs. Lloyd Randall; best terrarium, Mrs. Jack Williams.

THE FIRST AV STUDY CLUB OF ASHTABULA presented its 21st annual violet show, "Violets Around The World". Mrs. John Torma was general show chairman. Winners were: Mrs. Harold Armstrong, best of show,

'Claudia'; 2nd best, 'Blue Belle'; 3rd best, 'Pink Nimbus'; best AVSA collection, 'Ballet Karla', 'Pink Nimbus', 'Red Gold'; Ohio State best collection, 'Starburst', 'Bette Roserea', and 'Blue Belle'; best Granger Gardens plant, 'Blue Belle', best semiminiature, 'Tiffany Trinket', sweepstakes (50 blue ribbons) and staging, Mrs. Clyde Rosaa, best miniature, 'Midget Midnight', best gesneriad, 'Kohleria Connecticut Belle', best Hawley plant, 'Superfection'; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burr, Ohio State Rosette, 2nd best Ohio State collection, 'Granada', 'Think Pink', 'Serenity'; Mrs. John Williams, best in design, 'Oriental Splendor'; Mrs. John Torma, best terrarium, "Wood Life". Other members receiving ribbons were Mrs. Leen Acierno, Mrs. John Baird, Mrs. John Ellis, Mrs. William Hopkins, Mrs. Francis Luce, Mrs. Helen Mayes, Mrs. Niles Nieminen, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Oscar, and Mrs. Charlotte Weber.

THE AVS OF UTAH celebrated its 25th anniversary with a show, "Our Silver Anniversary", in Salt Lake City with Mrs. J. N. Jorgensen as show chairman. Winners were: AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Ruffled Red', 'Emperor', 'Ballet Maria', Queen of Show, 'Richter's Highland Beau', sweepstakes, Ilene M. Jorgensen; runner-up to queen, 'Garnet Elf', LeVine Nemanic, club president; artistic design, Renie Olson, Marie Jones, Maureen Roberts; design sweepstakes, Marie Jones; plant with most blooms, 'Blue Reverie', Hazel Chadwick; largest plant, 'Night Shade', Lucille Nesbitt; best variegated, 'Ivory Buttons', Mable Berrett; Princess, 'Midget Bon Bon', Marilyn Baker; design novice, Maureen Roberts.

Winners in the RHODE ISLAND AVS show were: AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette) 'Bashful Betsy', 'Lavender Delight', 'Artic Mist', 3rd best in horticulture, 'Lavender Delight', 2nd best, 12-16, 'Blue Storm', best variegated, 'Blue storm', 2nd best variegated, 'Bashful Betsy', 2nd best in aquamatic, 'Targeteer', Henry Vivier; 2nd best AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Night Magic', 'B. Marta', 'Pinks-A-Poppin', best artistic, and best in design, 'Captain's Choice', best arrangement, and 2nd best in design, 'Seafarer's Delight', sweepstakes runner-up (13 blue ribbons), best aquamatic, 'Tina', 2nd best, 'Marta', Jeanette Eichard; best in horticulture, best under 12", best trailer, 'Pixie Blue', 2nd best trailer, 'Pixie Pink', best gesneriad, 'Aesehynathis', Peg Belanger; 2nd best in horticulture, and best 12" - 16", 'Quasar', sweepstakes (14 blue ribbons), best jumbo over 16", 'Vern's Delight', Brother Blaise 2nd best jumbo over 16", 'Targeteer', best novice, 'Betty', John Mashuta; 2nd best under 12", 'Fan Fare', Eileen Paco; best semimini, 'Royal Trinket', Bev Sweet; best mini, 'Midget Bon Bon', Bertha Archambault; 2nd best mini, 'Tiny Sparkles', Vincent Ballirano; 2nd best novice, 'Betty', Joseph Mintel.

"Practice Makes Perfect" was the theme of the first night Jewel Box show held by the VIOLETS AFTER FIVE AVS. It was explained that Jewel Box is a term used for small shows rather than a mini show, which sometimes gets confused with the mini violet plant. Winners were: Sweepstakes, Mrs. Conway Sloan; best in show, 'Denise', Kim Joseph Kabasek; 2nd best, 'Pink Diamond', Hank Thomasson; best in literary class, 'Country Frolic', John Sallinger; best in Town and Country class, 'Mars', Mrs. A. L. Robinson. Mrs. Mary McFarland was show chairman.

The Daily Review and the St. Mary Journal, two newspapers of Morgan City, LA devoted several pages of their

daily editions to the ATCHAFALAYA AVS' show and many pictures were shown of the show winners and their winning plants. The show drew 650 entries at the Morgan City Municipal Auditorium. Among winners were: AVSA Best Collection (Gold Rosette), 'Chanticleer', 'Spring Deb', 'Granger's Bandmaster', best in show, 'Spring Deb', 2nd best 'Sailor's Dream', best mini, 'Mingo', sweepstakes in horticulture, Myrlie Thomas; sweepstakes runner-up, L. T. Ozio, Jr.; AVSA 2nd best Collection (Purple Rosette) 'Sweet Mary', 'Happy Harold', 'Mary D', Dixie Russo; best semimini, 'Sparky', best single purple, plain foliage, 'Purple Gold', Shirley McCann; best mini trailer, 'Dixie Blue', Betty Boudreaux; best variegated, 'Happy Harold', Alice Ramirez; best standard trailer, 'Violet Trail', Fran Allison; novel container, 'Firebird', Ann Dowden. Theme of the show was "Violets—A Paradise of Beauty".

Our Thanks, Apologies

Mrs. H. L. Holt
Publicity Chairman
AVSA '77 Convention

The Metropolitan St. Louis AVS thanks all those who volunteered their help in various capacities at our 1977 convention. At times we needed help - your response to our calls was most gratifying.

Our apologies for the fact that we did not have enough space and time to arrange all those beautiful plants for display as we would have liked. We were bulging at the seams and did not have any excess to "let out". We did not anticipate having nearly 800 entries in the horticulture and design divisions plus many special exhibits (yearbooks, newsletters, educational and promotional exhibits). We had asked for your entries and your response was terrific.

Texas has oodles of space so let's have a repeat performance next year. See ya'll in Austin in '78.

RUTH CAREY TRANSFERS COPYRIGHT TO AVSA

At the AVSA Convention in St. Louis, MO Ruth Carey, author of the "African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors" has transferred the handbook's copyright to AVSA. The copyright will give AVSA the exclusive right to reproduce, publish and sell the matter and form of the handbook.

Demand Increasing for Flowering Houseplants

Dale Eyerdom
Granger Gardens
1060 Wilbur Road
Medina, OH 44256

(This talk was made at a short course held by the Ohio Florists Association in Columbus, OH)

The African violet, or if more sophistication is needed, the *Saintpaulia* has evolved from a promotional give-away item of the forties to major prominence in the American house plant scene. Not too many years ago, if an organization needed a cheap impulse item to attract customers, a free violet was the answer. This is no longer the case, and we at Granger Gardens are happy for the change.

Our experience in this field encompasses over 30 years, and three generations of specializing in African violet production, mainly devoted to the production of new varieties through hybridization rather than volume output. It seems that the longer we are involved, the more we need to know and learn if we are to operate a profitable business. I doubt that there is anyone in the room with nerve enough to make the *Saintpaulia* their major crop, but for those who would consider it as a profitable supplemental crop, this talk is directed.

There are many factors leading to the increased demand for flowering house plants. Genetic and mutagenic advances have resulted in producing a superior product to that available thirty years ago. The advent of home air conditioning, fluorescent light gardening, and perhaps most of all, the interest by a younger generation has opened new sales areas never before possible. The air conditioning has given the homeowners in the deep southern states the chance to raise flowering house plants where previously it had been too hot to do successfully. The versatility of the plant along with longevity certainly must be dominant factors behind their acceptance. Whatever the reasons may be, I feel that they are here to stay. The recommendations I will give may not apply to all specific growing areas, and may not be adaptable to your existing greenhouse conditions but are meant as general guidelines.

TEMPERATURE requirements are somewhat higher than for other crops, with rooted cuttings and small starter plants needing a minimum of 75 F to a maximum of 80 F for rapid, even growth. After sufficient plant size has been reached, dropping the temperature to the 65 to 70 F range will

bring out the size and color potential the variety is capable of producing. Thermal optimums during the different stages of growth will have significant bearing on early maturity and the stimulus to induce flowering. Temperature also is an important factor in bringing out the variations in blossom type, and color variations, such as the so-called white Geneva edging which may disappear altogether in an environment where the temperature is too high. This also applies to the fullness of the doubles and size potential of the newer hybrids. Blooms capable of 1½" diameter size may not reach half that amount if carried too warm. Since the selling point of the violet today is the departure from the small, dull, single bloom of the past, care should be exercised to provide these temperature requirements if a serious effort is made by the grower.

LIGHT intensities involve many variables regarding plant age. The photo-period best responsible for blossom superiority is that of equal light and dark to get the most from today's hybrids. The combination of light and temperature cannot be overlooked since too high temperatures with too little light will result in poor quality flower stems. The opposite condition, that of too much light intensity, will result in hard, brittle growth with overall foliar sunburn and the appearance of the plant being stunted. The fact that the African violet will grow easily in the home and bloom under low light intensities may create a problem to the commercial grower due to the fact that there are not too many crops compatible with them that they may be raised in the same house. Even gloxinias tend to stretch when raised in some violet houses. The rule of thumb regarding light is to observe the plants. A long, light green foliage would indicate light starvation with accompanying lack of bloom. A short-coupled, bleached-out plant with extremely short leaf and blossom stems would indicate the plant is receiving too much light. Sunburn of the leaf surface may be apparent with the condition. Blossom tissue will scorch first — watch for this indicator. A relatively heavy coating of shade material on the greenhouse exterior is

a must for glass houses from April to October in Northern Ohio. This not only shades, but stops the heat from entering your house. Foot-candle ratings of 600-1200 have been suggested with shorter photoperiods for the higher ratings.

SOIL or SOIL SUBSTITUTES may be used depending on which is the most available and economical to the individual. We are using a well-drained mineral soil due to the fact that we have all the components located on our farm, namely, a fertile heavy clay loam topsoil, and a muck deposit of high lime from sedge and reed peat. The basic potting mix is 2/3 peat and 1/3 clay loam. To this we add about 10% coarse concrete sand, superphosphate, and some dolomitic limestone to reach a pH level of from 6.8 to 7.2. This mix is used for our 2½" plant production. We also raise a 3½" plant and we lighten the soil somewhat by the addition of ½ by volume of Premier peat or equivalent, this for additional drainage since we are using plastic pots. For clay pots I don't think that the additional peat will be necessary. I think that the trend today is toward the soil substitute rather than mineral soil due to the fact that cost factor in preparing soil is becoming more dominant in the profit and loss column, plus the inconsistency of so-called topsoils which must be purchased by the grower. The soil substitute referred to is of the UC or Cornell mix type preparation. The one serious drawback to the soil substitute is that greater care must be exercised in nutrient needs of the crop. A conscientious program of feeding must be followed to insure the major and minor element needs.

REGARDING PLANT NUTRITION, a well-balanced, water-soluble plant food of a 1-2-1 ratio should be ample. As stated earlier, if soil substitutes are used, more emphasis must be placed on the addition of a well-balanced minor element or trace element feeding program. Experience has proven that overfeeding can be a more severe problem than underfeeding since overfeeding can actually kill the plant. The exchange capacity of mineral soils help serve as a buffer to avoid problems of quick deficiencies or excesses. Remember that any fertilizing program will not be effective if the pH is not in the general 6.5 to 7.2 range due to the fact that insoluble compounds may be formed rather than useful plant foods if extremes in acidity or alkalinity exist.

I favor the use of the constant feed method through an injection system. We hose water, and whether much nutrient is absorbed through the foliage is debatable. A typical stock solution of a 15-30-15 fertilizer is ¾ pounds to one gallon of water for a 1:100 injector. We have not used the slow release type fertilizer as a soil additive so de-

cline comment. It may be valuable in the soilless mix.

DISEASES of the *Saintpaulia* are of a minor nature providing clean cultural practices are followed. Laboratory diagnosis of pathogens indicating the presence of *Botrytis*, *Pythium*, *Sclerotinia*, or many of the other common fungi can usually be traced back to a poorly managed growing operation or an incomplete steam sterilizing program. If one factor must be all important in disease-free plants, it must be soil sterilizing of all flats, benches, and pots used. The common term crown rot can usually be traced to an incomplete steaming job or adverse environmental conditions such as poor ventilation, overwatering, or a soil that will not drain properly. It is true that the final causative factor contributing to the death of the plant can be an identifiable fungus pathogen, but chances are that if clean growing practices were followed, that plant would not have been damaged. There can be one drawback to steam sterilization of mineral soils, and that is the temporary release of soluble salts or manganese toxicity. Both conditions can be controlled or minimized by leaching on the first few waterings.

(To Be Continued)

Judging Schools Set For October

Three AVSA judging schools have been fully registered to be held this fall. They are as follows:

Oct. 11-12, Central Florida AVS, Mrs. Charles Clark, chairman, 1232 Henry Balch Drive, Orlando, FL 32810.

Oct. 11-12, Northshore AVS, Susan Tirzmalis, chairman, 48 Terry Road, North Port, NY 11768.

Oct. 20-22, New York State AVS, Robert E. Casey, chairman, 218 Beley Avenue, Mattydale, NY 13211.

Affiliates planning judging schools are asked to send their registration for the school to Mrs. W. J. Krogman, 1325 Parkway Drive, Brookfield, WI 53005.

MAGAZINE BINDERS

Sold only in pairs, \$7.00 a pair postpaid.

**Send order and check to AVSA, P. O. Box
1326, Knoxville, TN 37901**

I'm A Tired Mini - Always Movin' On!

*Montine (Monty) Dale
1432 West 103-rd Ave.
Denver, CO 80221*

I've almost lost count of the times I've moved. In a manner of speaking, I was even evicted once.

My life began in a very normal way. When I was a baby in a flower shop, a real nice lady bought me to add to her collection of minis. She gave me all the love and care a mini could ask for. Then one day it happened! I still shudder to think about it.

The Mister was a very patient man. He went so far as to smoke his pipe on the patio so as not to harm the violets (The Missus insisted the smoke may be harmful to their health). One day when he came home from work and went to the basement to get a pair of pliers, he almost had apoplexy! Part of his precious work bench had been converted to a VIOLET NURSERY! Well he hit the ceiling! He hadn't complained when violets took over the living room, the dining room, the kitchen and even the bath room, but THIS was too much! Racing up the basement stairs two at a time he stormed into the kitchen where the Missus was preparing dinner and yelled, "Why in heaven's name did you put those * † ! * ! violets on my WORK BENCH?" The Missus opened her mouth to justify the dastardly deed she had committed but thinking better of it she meekly promised to get rid of them . . . which she did and I was one of the group.

Even tho I missed my old home and my mini buddies, my new home wasn't too bad. I made friends right away with 'Little Clown', 'Window Blue', 'Nymph Fly' and many others. Miss Aggie was familiar with all my needs and under her care I flourished and grew and was very happy there. Then one day her sister became quite ill and Miss Aggie had to go and live with her — so I was on the move again.

When Miss Aggie gave me to Aunt Sis, her next-door neighbor, (a skinny, nearsighted little old lady) Aunt Sis cuddled me in her hands and holding me close to her eyes "ooed" and "aaahed" and squeaked, "How beautiful! How perfectly beautiful!" I knew I cut quite a figure with my glossy leaves and eyecatching blossoms, but this was ridiculous.

Aunt Sis was good to me giving me proper food, water, light and humidity, but she didn't see the mealy bugs that were eating me alive. Finally she noticed something was wrong with me. In answer to her frantic phone call, Mama Potts, a plump, good natured, middleaged lady (also a vio-

let grower) came over to examine me. Looking me straight in the blossoms (what was left of them) she "cooed", "You poor little dear . . . you are a pitiful-looking sight". What little ego I had left hit zero by that remark. She offered to take me home and see what she could do for me. Aunt Sis, who was sure I was well on the way to violet heaven, urged Mama to keep me and try to save me.

Mama took me home and promptly de-mealy-bugged me. Then she tucked me in a 2½" plastic pot in good planting soil mixed with a small amount of charcoal, and enough perlite, vermiculite and peat moss to make a loamy mixture. Next she watered me with WARM water and placed me about 7 to 10 inches under fluorescent lights keeping them on 14 hours a day.

Every time my soil became dry to the touch, she watered and fed me with WARM water containing a small amount of good plant food . . . ¼ teaspoonful to one gallon of water. She thought it was better to keep me on a steady diet rather than run the risk of burning my leaves by too much food at intervals. She was always careful not to leave me sitting in it which could cause my death by crown rot.

I can adapt fairly well to excesses in temperature one way or the other, but I thrive best in 70 to 75 degrees with a 5-to-10-degree drop at night. This Mama arranged.

Fresh air is beneficial to my health so long as it doesn't blow directly on me. Mama aired the house every day except in cold weather; then she opened the windows in an adjacent room allowing the air to warm before it reached me.

Humidity is another must for my proper growth; between 50 and 60 degrees is about right. Fortunately for me Mama had a humidifier.

Being unkempt was a no-no with Mama. She removed my dead blossoms, dead leaves and suckers. She gave me a bath when I was dusty. Holding me over the kitchen sink, she used a gentle WARM spray tilting me slightly so as to keep the water off my crown.

When Mr. Potts retired, he and Mama took a trip to Europe. Friends took what violets they could accommodate to care for the while. Nancy, Mama's daughter, took me among other minis to her house.

Cats are all right in their place but when they

walk around between the violets switching their tails over leaves and blossoms trying to find a choice spot for a nap, that is too much! Ma Puss, Nancy's cat did just that when she wanted a rest from her latest litter of kittens. By the time Mama returned from her trip and took me home, I was a mess — cat hair all over me. Mama gently brushed me and gave me a warm bath like she does when I'm dusty. I felt like my old self again. To add to my joy at being home with her again, she bought several new minis to keep me company.

'Tiny Sparkles' - Double burgundy flowers tipped with white dots. Lush dark green leaves.

'Mingo' - Not one of the latest but a beauty with double red blossoms and forest green foliage.

'Doodle Pink' - A real eye-catcher. Bright double pink blossoms with yellow stamens. Small dark green girl foliage.

'Tiny Blue' - One of the best. Double blue flowers . . . tiny glossy dark green leaves.

'Calico Kitten' - Not a newcomer but still going strong. Double blue blossoms with tiny variegated leaves.

Now that I'm with Mama again . . . flourishing under her TLC and happy with my fellow minis . . . I'm no longer "A TIRED MINI ALWAYS MOVIN' ON"

Violet Shows Can Be Fun!

*Mrs. Edward Fisher
10 Grantview Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123*

It is the time of year when our plans begin to formulate for the next flower show. The duty of the President is to appoint a General Chairman for the show. The person she selects should be qualified to choose her chairmen.

The first chairmen she should appoint are the Schedule Chairman and the Staging Chairman. These chairmen will work closely with the Properties Chairman.

The place for the show should be determined by the committee. After this decision is made, the committee decides the space area available to stage with Horticulture and Design Entries. A floor plan is made and the schedule committee starts to plan the classes. This committee will spend many hours writing and rewriting, planning and measuring floor space, determining background sizes and colors. All classes should be limited to the number of entries. This makes a more balanced show.

Finally all other chairmen are chosen and the schedule is ready for the Exhibitors.

The exhibitor has breathlessly waited for the schedule and after carefully and hastily reading it, decides which class they would like to enter. Since all classes are limited, they rush to get their entry in. The class is filled, hopefully, and now closed to more entries. We have reserved the space for our beautiful design or specimen plants.

What happens the morning of the show? There are some empty spaces. Where is the Exhibitor?

It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to follow through with the Designs or Specimen Plants. If an emergency has arisen and it is impossible to do, have some one else fill your reserved space. The Committee has worked many hours on the planning and execution of the Show and you, who do not follow through, may just be the one who keeps your Club from getting an award on the show.

Be a good sport. There can only be one blue ribbon in a class but experience means a lot, so enter and have fun, win or lose.

Do You Have Your Master Variety List?

The African Violet Master Variety List, No. 3, is now available from the AVSA office in Knoxville. The price is \$3.50.

Included in this Master Variety List are names of all registered cultivars from No. 1 to No. 2802.

Registrations before 1976 will no longer be listed in the African Violet Magazine and the complete registration list will not be reprinted in subsequent MVL publications.

So you see why this is a MUST! So order now from AVSA, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901 while we have these in stock. The Master Variety Lists No. 1 and No. 2 are no longer available.

BUY SMALL AMOUNTS

Buy small amounts of poisons so you won't have quantities left over from year to year. Store in places inaccessible to children, in dry places that will neither freeze nor be subject to over 85 degree heat.

Mix up, in a ventilated area, only what you'll need. Better to refill than have excess.

SHOWS AND JUDGES

(NOTE: All rule changes relating to show, judges, and judging will become effective November 1, 1977.)

SHOW PROCEDURE

- A. An African violet show should have the following committees: General Show Chairman, Staging, Schedule, Entries, Classification, Publicity, Judges, Hospitality, Cleanup and Properties.
- B. For duties of above committees, see the AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS.

GENERAL SHOW RULES

- A. All varieties shall be accepted in the specimen classes of convention shows except in the collection class which shall be limited to registered varieties, all of which shall be of the same type, either standards, miniatures, semiminatures, or trailers, either standards or miniatures.
- B. Plants for specimen classes, seedlings, and those in the unusual, novel, or decorative containers shall have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months and shall be planted in the container.
- C. Specimen plants in amateur and commercial classes shall be single crown except plants in the species and trailer classes which may be multiple crown.
- D. All plants with suckers shall be disqualified from single crown classes.
- E. Seedlings (never before exhibited at an AVSA convention show) shall have been grown from seed by the exhibitor or rights released by hybridizer.
- F. Pots or containers for specimen plants shall be in proportion to the size of the plant. Any shape of pot for specimen entries shall be permitted in convention shows, but pots shall be uniformly covered. Local show committees shall have the authority to make their own rule as to type of pot permitted.
- G. No special labels shall be allowed on plants in the show.
- H. No flared-top pots, supports or collars shall be permitted under foliage.
- I. There shall be classes for commercial exhibitors in horticulture, and they shall not enter amateur classes. They may enter the design classes.
- J. The height, width, and depth of niches for all design classes must be stated in the schedule.
- K. A card shall accompany all entries in design classes giving the names of varieties used, together with description of all other materials. This rule shall be included in convention schedules. It should be followed in affiliate shows, if possible, but is not mandatory.
- L. In arrangement sections, some classes using fresh-cut African violet blossoms, with or without other cut plant material, shall be included. The schedule may also include classes in which only African violet foliage, with or without other plant foliage, is featured.
- M. At convention shows, commercial and amateur exhibitors shall be permitted to dismantle their displays after the show closes on Friday.
- N. For rules covering AVSA awards, refer to awards.
- O. The number of educational entries in the convention

show shall be limited to three entries, the space to be allowed each educational exhibit shall be determined by the local show committee.

- P. In affiliate shows, judges shall be permitted to use National Council scales of points for judging any classes in the design division for which AVSA does not have a scale of points.
- Q. If AVSA Collection Awards are offered in an affiliate show, all AVSA members shall be eligible to compete unless there is a rule in the schedule stating that it is limited to local affiliate members.
- R. In affiliate shows, all schedules shall include a rule that only blue ribbon plants and designs are eligible for any special awards.
- S. In affiliate shows, a separate class may be included for any hybridizer's plants, if agreeable with the local members, providing the rule of no special labels is observed.

COMMERCIAL SHOW RULES

- A. General: Same rules and regulations shall apply as for amateur entries, where applicable, such as time for entries, time for dismantling, et cetera.
- B. No colored lights which distort or enhance the color shall be allowed on commercial displays at convention shows.
- C. Specimen plant class: Commercial horticulture division.
 - 1. Entries shall be open to all AVSA commercial members who do not have display table entries.
 - 2. An exhibitor may enter any number of African violets, species, or other gesneriads but only one plant of the same variety in each class.
 - 3. Any number of seedlings may be entered provided they have been originated by the exhibitor or released rights given in writing.
- D. Collection class: Rules governing AVSA Collection Awards shall apply.
 - 1. Entries shall be open to all AVSA commercial members who do not have a display table.
- E. Display tables (for plants only, not for merchandise)
 - 1. Entries shall be open to all commercial members who do not have an entry in the commercial horticulture division.
 - 2. Each display table shall contain not less than 15 and not more than 25 plants. Three miniatures or semiminatures shall count as one specimen plant and be judged as one unit.
 - 3. The display shall be predominately (at least 75%) African violets.
 - 4. Other gesneriads may be included in the 25 plants and will be judged.
 - 5. All plants shall be single crown plants except species and trailers.
 - 6. No other plant material, such as ivy or philodendron, shall be used in decorating or staging the display.
 - 7. Plants shall be merit judged by appropriate AVSA scales of points.
 - 8. Each plant entered in competition for New Introduction Award shall be labeled designating it

as such: new introduction, seedling, et cetera. These plants shall be judged by the AVSA scale of points for seedlings.

9. Entries for New Introduction Award shall have been originated by the exhibitor or released rights given in writing and not previously shown at an AVSA convention.
10. The host group shall provide three-tiered tables in the show room for commercial display table entries. Tables will be uniform in size, cover and sign for commercial names.
11. The Best Display Table award shall be awarded to the exhibitor who receives the highest number of points accumulated as follows: blue rosette, 15 points; red rosette, 13 points; white rosette, 10 points; blue ribbon, 5 points; red ribbon, 3 points; white ribbon, 1 point.
12. Sheets shall be prepared for judges to record points won and total to show how trophies are determined for Best Display Table Awards.

DEFINITIONS

Amateur grower: One who grows African violets for pleasure and not as a business; one who pays individual membership dues.

Bloom stalk: A spray of blossoms on a stem that grows between the leaves.

Bubble bowl: A transparent container either enclosed showing a bubble at the top or open at the top having a design under water and which shall be an entry in the arrangement section of the design division. Do not deduct points if air bubbles are present.

Bud: An unopened or partly open blossom. In a flower show, buds cannot qualify as blossoms except in seedlings, sports and mutants.

Collection: A group of specimens, minimum of three plants, judged for its horticultural value. Number of potted plants may vary from 3 to 6 depending on whether they are standard or dwarf.

Commercial grower: All persons or firms who advertise consistently and/or sell one thousand (1,000) or more African violet plants or leaf cuttings annually or who manufacture or advertise for sale, fertilizer, disease and insect control materials, equipment, tools, or any other merchandise pertaining to or applicable to growing African violets.

Condition: The physical growth of a plant at the time it is judged.

Cultivar: Named horticultural variety as distinguished from a natural variety of a species.

Disbud: To remove buds or bud stems in order to hold back the blossoms opening until a later period, such as at exhibition time.

Dish garden: A planting in any open type container planted in soil. It may be planted in clear glass, dishes, or any other type of container, but it must not have a cover.

Display: Usually an exhibit covering an exact area of floor space planned for decorative effect and cultural perfection and judged as such.

Disqualify: To remove an exhibit from consideration of the judges because of some defect which is the exhibitor's fault or did not conform to schedule. When time permits, the reason for disqualification should be written on a card and placed by entry.

Eliminate: To remove an exhibit from the consideration of the judges which for some reason (disease, etc.) would have little chance to win an award.

Enlarged pistils: Varieties showing early formation of enlarged pistils while the blossoms are still fresh but have not dropped are not to be considered as seed pods.

Entry: A single plant or unit before it is placed in a specific class in the show.

Exhibit: Once an entry is accepted by the classification committee it becomes an exhibit. This also applies to educational exhibits entered for noncompetitive purposes.

Foliage: The leaf of a plant.

Geneva varieties: Only those with white edge around the blossom.

Hybrid: A plant grown from seed as a result of breeding or cross-pollinating different varieties or species.

Miniature plant: The average size mature plant may be up to 6 inches across; blossoms can be any size with 6 to 12 blossoms per plant; foliage small.

Multicolored blossom: Those with two or more colors.

Niche: A recessed space. No part of the plant material should touch the sides or back; neither must it extend beyond the limits of the box.

Pedice: The stem supporting a single flower in a cluster.

Peduncle: The main stem in a flower cluster.

Petiole: The part of the plant between the leaf and stalk; usually called the stem.

Seedling: A plant grown from seed.

Semidouble blossom: A blossom having more than five petals, such as an extra crest or tuft at the center of the blossom, but less than a full row of secondary petals.

Semiminature plant: The average size mature plant may be up to 8 inches across; leaf and blossom size optional; may be large or small with 6 to 20 blossoms per plant.

Shadow box: A recessed lighted space with a complete frame, such as a picture frame, which has shadows projected on the background or has shadows silhouetted on a translucent foreground.

Sport or mutant: Plants which differ in some characteristics from the parent.

Standard Show: An African violet show sponsored by one or more AVSA affiliates conforming to AVSA requirements as set forth in the AVSA Standard Show scale of points; not a violet section of a show sponsored by a garden club, horticultural society, other plant society, exposition or fair.

Sucker: The beginning of a new plant which forms near the base of the plant or in the axil where the petiole joins the main plant stem and which has developed four leaves with no evidence of bud formation.

Terrarium: A planting in soil in a transparent, covered container, and which shall be an entry in the artistic planting section of the design division.

Two-tone: A blossom with light and dark values of the same color.

Variegated foliage: Foliage having a combination of two or more of the following colors: white or light green, rose, red, wine, coppery pink, cream, chartreuse and dark green.

Variety: Plants with characteristics which remain the same for a group of plants in the same family or genus. Any group of lower rank than a species.

JUDGING POLICY

- A. Accredited AVSA judges shall judge specimen plant classes. National Council judges may serve on panels for judging design classes and/or the AVSA Standard Show Award.

- B. Three judges shall serve on each panel or group of judges.
- C. In judging specimen plants, no special consideration shall be given any particular method of lighting used in their culture.
- D. At convention shows, the gesneriad section shall be checked for proper labeling and identification before judging.
- E. One gesneriad judge shall be included, if possible, in the panel which judges gesneriad classes other than African violets.
- F. In judging a specimen plant, buds shall not be considered as blossoms except in judging seedlings, sports, and mutants.
- G. The number of points (according to the scale of points) necessary to win ribbons shall be: blue, 90 - 100 points; red, 80 - 89 points; white, 70 - 79 points.
- H. In case of a tie in the number of blue ribbons for sweepstakes, red ribbons, and if necessary white ribbons, shall be counted.
- I. The scales of points used to judge specimen plants in the commercial division shall be the same as that used for specimen plants in the amateur division.

SCALES OF POINTS*

- A. Horticulture classes
 - 1. Specimen plants
 - a. Leaf pattern or form30
 - b. Floriferousness25
 - c. Condition20
 - d. Size and type of bloom15
 - e. Color of bloom10
 - 2. Specimen African violet trailers
 - a. Form25
 - b. Floriferousness25
 - c. Condition25
 - d. Size and type of bloom15
 - e. Color of bloom10
 - 3. Seedlings, sports, and mutants
 - a. Leaf pattern or form20
 - b. Floriferousness25
 - c. Size of bloom15
 - d. Condition10
 - e. Color of bloom10
 - f. Improvement or different from any named variety20
 - 4. Plants in unusual, novel or decorative containers.
 - a. Leaf pattern or form25
 - b. Floriferousness20
 - c. Relation to container15
 - d. Condition15
 - e. Size and type of bloom15
 - f. Color of bloom10
- B. Design classes
 - 1. Plantings: Naturalistic or woodland scenes, terrariums, dish gardens, et cetera.

- a. Design and arrangement of planting40
- b. Suitability of material25
- c. Condition15
- d. Color combination10
- e. Distinction10

100

- 2. African violet arrangements
 - a. Design35
 - b. Color combination20
 - c. Distinction and originality15
 - d. Relation to container10
 - e. Condition10
 - f. Suitability of combination of all materials10

100

- C. Yearbooks — Maximum size 5½" x 8½"
(Points shown in brackets indicate how total points are divided)

- 1. Cover5
 - a. Design (1)
 - b. Distinction and originality (1)
 - c. Design related to violets, program theme or locale of affiliate (1)
 - d. Identification - affiliate name (½); city (½); state (½); year (½) (2)
- 2. Title page5
 - a. Organization date (1)
 - b. AVSA affiliation(s) (1)
 - c. AVSA affiliation date (1)
 - d. Number of members (1)
 - e. Number of AVSA members (1)
- 3. Other pages10
 - a. Index page (see 4a)
 - b. Affiliate roster (3)
 - Name (½); street or box number (¼); city (¼); state (½); Zip (¼); phone number (¼); asterisk or other mark to identify AVSA members (1)
 - c. AVSA names & addresses an affiliate needs:
 - Name (¼); street or box number (¼); city and state (¼); zip (¼) for each of the following:
 - AVSA President (1)
 - AVSA Affiliate Chairman (1)
 - AVSA Best Varieties Compiler .. (1)
 - AVSA Knoxville Office (1)
 - d. Affiliate officers (1)
 - e. Affiliate committee chairmen .. (1)
 - f. Affiliate AVSA representative .. (1)
- 4. Functional quality of yearbook5
 - a. Index page (1¼)
 - b. Durable cover and pages to withstand normal use (1¼)
 - c. Neatness (1¼)
 - d. Beauty (1¼)
- 5. Programs - minimum of 7 study program meetings35
- 6. Public display of violets10
- 7. Project(s) supporting AVSA10
 - a. Donations to AVSA Boyce Edens Fund or AVSA

*Details and guidelines may be found in the 1975 revision of the AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS by Ruth G. Carey.

Booster Fund	(6)
b. AVSA magazine subscription gift	(2)
c. Other AVSA proposed continuing projects	(2)
8. Percentage of membership who are AVSA members	10
(2e divided by 2d = 10 points if 100%)	
9. Quality of programs according to AVSA objective(s)	5
a. Clarity of program presentation .	(2)
b. Evaluation of depth of study ...	(3)
10. Quality of projects according to AVSA objectives	5
	100
D. AVSA Standard Show	
1. Theme and schedule	8
a. Originality and suitability of theme	(4)
b. Clear and specific schedule	(4)
2. Staging	20
a. Originality	(7)
b. Practicality	(5)
c. Unity	(4)
d. Beauty	(4)
3. Horticulture division	30
a. Quality of specimens	(10)
b. Number of specimens	(8)
c. Correct and legible labeling	(7)
d. Percentage of club exhibiting ..	(5)
4. Design division	20
a. Quality	(8)
b. Interpretation of schedule	(7)
c. Distinction and originality	(5)
5. Educational objectives	12
a. Educational display	(8)
b. AVSA information	(4)
6. AVSA Collection Awards	10
a. Entries, if any, either amateur or commercial, or both	(5)
b. Gold rosette, either amateur or commercial, if awarded	(3)
c. Purple rosette, and/or second gold rosette, either amateur or commercial, if awarded	(2)
	100

JUDGING SCHOOLS

- A. A judging school shall be held in any section where there is sufficient interest provided a qualified teacher can be secured to teach the class.
- B. Rules for local chairmen of judging schools:
 1. Each group holding a judging school shall have a local chairman whose duties shall be complete supervision of the school regarding time, location, registration fee charged, and expenses, and any other arrangements necessary for the school.
 2. The local chairman shall send to the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for application blanks on which to register the school. The school shall be registered with the AVSA chairman for at least two months from the date the application is received. No judging school shall be approved for an enrollment of less than 5 AVSA members.
 3. AVSA recommends that the course and ex-

amination be held on different days. However, if not possible, allow a study period before the examination is held. The examination shall be held within one week after the class is taught. At the close of the class, each student shall fill out an evaluation sheet of the teacher. The local chairman shall mail the evaluation sheets to the AVSA chairman.

4. If the local chairman takes the examination, someone else shall be secured to proctor the examination and mail the papers to the teacher.
5. The expenses which shall be paid by the local group shall include the teacher's fee, travel, and hotel expenses. Also reimbursement to teacher for printing examination questions, point-score sheets and mailing examination papers to students.

JUDGES

- A. AVSA shall hold a course for qualifying judges at each AVSA convention.
- B. Only AVSA members shall be eligible to hold a qualified judging school certificate.
 1. Judges shall be required to grow at least 25 African violet plants consisting of 15 registered varieties and shall continue to meet this requirement as long as they remain judges.
- C. To be eligible for a certificate a student shall:
 1. Attend the entire session to be eligible to take the examination when a judging school is held for just one day. Attend at least one day to be eligible to take the examination if the school is held for more than one day.
 2. Make a grade of 70 or above on the written examination.
 3. Point-score judge three African violet plants as a part of the examination.
 - a. As one question, 10 points shall be given if the student's score on all three plants meets the requirement of 5 points above or below the teacher's score. Each plant will receive 2 1/3 points for each correct score and 1 point on each plant for comments.
 - b. Comments shall be part of the requirements for point-score judging.
 - c. Students point-score judge individually, not in panels.
 4. Present to the teacher his AVSA membership card showing he is an AVSA member in good standing.
- D. Certificates shall expire three years from date of issue.
- E. Certificates may be renewed by taking a judging school course at any AVSA convention or local school approved by AVSA. To become Lifetime Judges, see requirements for such certificates.
- F. A certificate shall automatically expire if the judge is not an AVSA member in good standing. However, if AVSA membership is renewed within three months such judge shall be eligible to resume judging.
- G. Judges shall not charge for judging shows other than traveling and hotel expenses.

LIFETIME JUDGES

- A. AVSA shall issue lifetime certificates to qualified

judges who have observed the following rules and regulations:

1. Shall have been a qualified AVSA judge for at least six years.
2. Attended at least three judging courses approved by AVSA, making a grade of 85 or above on each of them.
3. Judged five African violet shows sponsored by any affiliate or AVSA convention show. At least three of the above shall have been judged by panels.
4. Shall keep informed of all new rules pertaining to shows and judges published in the **AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE** and latest edition of the **AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS**.
5. Shall always grow at least 50 African violets consisting of at least 25 registered varieties.
6. A judge whose certificate has expired may renew. After the renewed certificate has been effective for one year, such a judge may apply for lifetime certificate. Qualifications earned before the certificate expired may be included when submitting qualifications for the lifetime certificate.
7. A fee of \$1.00 shall be submitted to AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for a set of questions with spaces for answers. The fee shall cover printing and mailing expenses. Notice of application shall be in the June **AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE**. Answers shall be mailed by October 1 of the current year for three consecutive years after which answers shall be required every third year. Passing grade of 93 shall be required.
 - a. Failure to submit review examination shall automatically invalidate certificate.
 - b. Lifetime judges whose grade on review drops below the required 93 shall be dropped as lifetime judges. They shall be permitted to retain a status of qualified judge for a one year period. After this one year period, they may apply again with review questions. Should they fail a second time, they shall go back to regular judge status for one year after which they will be required to attend a judging school every three years.
 - c. Judges shall be permitted to use the **AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE** or **AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS** in answering questions.
8. Upon receiving a grade of 93 on first review questions, a permanent gold lifetime certificate shall be issued. Thereafter, a regular certificate will be issued showing the date when the next questions will be due.
9. If attending AVSA convention, they shall serve as judges or clerks if needed.
10. When applying for lifetime certificate, \$1 fee for the questions shall be submitted to the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman with the following information:
 - a. List of all AVSA judging school courses taken, grade, teacher, date, city, and state of each class.
 - b. Names of affiliates of five shows judged, also dates, city, and state.
 - c. For each show judged (with exception of

convention shows) schedules, signed by local judges chairmen, shall be submitted.

d. No information, schedules, or other material shall be returned unless a stamped envelope is sent.

11. Lifetime certificates shall be revoked if judges fail to follow the rules and regulations of AVSA.

TEACHERS

A. Requirements:

1. To be eligible for a teacher's certificate, an applicant shall have:
 - a. Been an AVSA member for five years.
 - b. Completed three judging school courses, making a grade of 90 or above on each, over a five year period.
 - c. Served as a qualified judge for at least three shows during the last three years before applying.
2. The applicant shall compile a list of 25 questions and answers based on information in the **AFRICAN VIOLET HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND EXHIBITORS**. Answers shall be given in the applicant's own words with the exception of rules which may be quoted verbatim. When these requirements are satisfactorily completed and the application approved, the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman shall issue a teacher's certificate. AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman may revoke a teacher's certificate if the rules are not followed.
3. If AVSA sponsors a class for teachers, they shall attend if possible.
4. Teachers, except those holding lifetime certificates, shall be required to renew their judges' certificates every three years, maintaining a grade of 90 or above on each examination thereafter. AVSA judges' certificates may be issued only for a judging school taught by a qualified AVSA teacher.
5. Teachers desiring to become lifetime judges shall be required to meet the same qualifications as other lifetime judges.

B. Rules:

1. Upon receiving a request to teach a school, teachers must submit to AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman for approval a complete set of the exact questions and answers in the order in which they will be given to the students, at least four weeks prior to the date of the class. These questions shall be returned within two weeks from the date submitted for approval.
2. There shall be nine main questions with either 2, 5, 6 or 10 parts under at least 5 or 6 of the questions and one question allotted for point scoring. A different set of questions shall be submitted for each class.
3. Teachers shall check AVSA membership card of every student taking course and examination at each school held to ascertain if each student is a member in good standing. Students who are not AVSA members may take the course, but they shall not be eligible to receive certification.
4. Teachers shall give students a three-hour course in lecture work plus the point-score judging which shall follow. Teachers shall grade papers

for each school. It is not necessary for the teacher to hold the examination, but the teacher shall point-score judge the three plants which the students judge as part of the examination. Student point-score judging shall be at the close of the lecture period. If the local chairman serves as proctor of the examination, the chairman shall mail the examination papers to the teacher. Teachers may purchase the point-score sheets at \$1.25 per 25 from the AVSA Shows and Judges Chairman.

5. Teachers shall be permitted to charge a fee of \$15 to \$25 for each school taught in addition to travel and hotel expenses. Teachers shall also be reimbursed for point-score sheets, printing and examination questions, and mailing examination papers to students.
6. When the school is approved, the AVSA Chairman shall send roster sheets to the teacher who shall return them typed in duplicate with a space between each name. Each student taking the examination, including those who do not receive a passing grade, shall be listed by number alphabetically with address and grade. Within three weeks after the class is held, the teacher shall mail the AVSA Chairman the roster sheets with point-score sheets and examination papers of three students, one whose grade is 90 or above, one medium and one low grade. The AVSA Chairman shall return the examination papers and judges certificates to the teacher who shall then mail them to the students within two weeks.

SOCIETY AWARDS

ELIGIBILITY – CONVENTION SHOW AWARDS

- A. Exhibitors in both amateur and commercial divisions shall be AVSA members in good standing.
- B. Organizations entering yearbooks shall be affiliates.

REQUIREMENTS – CONVENTION SHOW AWARDS AMATEUR DIVISION

- A. Only blue ribbon winners in the entire show shall be eligible for special awards.
- B. No special labels shall be allowed on plants in the show.
- C. Plants shall be registered varieties published in the AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE prior to date of convention show to be eligible for society awards.

TYPES OF AWARDS CONVENTION AMATEUR DIVISION

- A. AVSA Silver Cup shall be awarded to best registered variety in designated classes.
- B. Award of Merit Rosette and \$15 cash shall be awarded to second best registered variety in designated classes.
- C. Honorable Mention Rosette and \$10 cash shall be awarded to third best registered variety in designated classes.
- D. AVSA Collection Awards:
 1. Gold rosette shall be given, when all requirements are fulfilled, to the best collection ex-

hibited as an entry in the collection class.

2. Purple rosette shall be given, when all requirements are fulfilled, to the second best collection exhibited as an entry in the collection class.

TYPES OF AWARDS CONVENTION COMMERCIAL DIVISION

- A. Silver trophies shall be awarded to the exhibitors of the display tables receiving the 1st, 2nd and 3rd highest number of points and an Honorable Mention Rosette to the exhibitor receiving the 4th highest number of points.
- B. The New Introduction Award (plaque) shall be awarded to the hybridizer of the best new introduction.
- C. The Commercial Silver Cup shall be awarded to the exhibitor of the best registered variety exhibited by a commercial member who does not exhibit in the display table section.
- D. The AVSA Collection Awards:
 1. Gold rosette shall be given, when all requirements are fulfilled, to the best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.
 2. Purple rosette shall be given, when all requirements are fulfilled, to the second best collection exhibited as an entry in the class for collections.
- E. Blue, red and white rosettes as merited by competitive judging shall be awarded for
 1. Horticultural perfection - all plants considered as a group.
 2. Best new introduction.
- F. Blue, red and white ribbons as merited by merit judging shall be awarded exhibits in commercial horticulture division classes, collection class and for plants on display tables.
- G. A pink rosette shall be awarded to the best plant on each commercial display table. This rosette shall have no point value and shall not be included in the accumulation of points.

AVSA MEMBER SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

- A. Three silver bowls, not exceeding four inches in diameter, and three rosettes for the most blue ribbons in horticulture classes; two silver bowls and two rosettes for the most blue ribbons in design classes shall be awarded to AVSA members who win the most blue ribbons in shows sponsored by affiliates during the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.
 1. The President or Secretary of the affiliate shall send to the AVSA Awards Chairman by March 1 the following information:
 - a. Name of organization
 - b. Name and address of member
 - c. Number of ribbons won
 - d. Dates and places of shows.
 2. If there is a tie in blue ribbons when tabulating to determine the sweepstakes winners; red ribbons shall be counted; if a tie still exists, white ribbons shall be counted.
 3. Winners shall be announced at the annual banquet.

YEARBOOK AWARDS

- A. Four awards shall be given by AVSA as follows: first, \$15; second, \$10; third, \$5; fourth, \$4.

MISCELLANEOUS AWARDS

- A. Bronze Medal for Horticultural Achievement.
 - 1. The recipient need not be a member of AVSA.
 - 2. Two awards may be given, if warranted; one in the field of scientific effort and one for other horticultural achievement.
 - 3. This award is not required to be given each year.
 - B. Past President's Pin. A special pin designated as "Past President's Pin" shall be presented to each AVSA President upon retirement from office. This pin shall be selected by the Awards Committee.
 - C. A Distinguished Service Certificate may be awarded to Honorary Life Members who have continued to give outstanding service to the society.
 - D. A special wallet card and certificate shall be given to all Honorary Life Members.
 - E. A purple ribbon may be given at convention shows for special exhibits or display such as yearbooks, educational tables, show themes, et cetera.
 - F. On recommendation of the Publications Committee, no more than five (5) President's Citation Certificates, size 5" x 7", may be given for outstanding articles in the AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE, June through March issues.
 - G. Continuing Service Award shall be given only to those persons who have previously received the Honorary One Year membership award. Not more than three may be given per year.
 - H. Blue and red rosettes for affiliate magazines or newsletters in two competitive classes.
- 3. To be eligible for these awards, each plant shall score 90 or more points.
 - 4. Gold rosette shall be awarded to best collection.
 - 5. Purple rosette shall be awarded to second best collection.
 - 6. Each plant shall be given the blue, red, or white ribbon to which it is entitled, and such ribbons shall count towards sweepstakes.
 - 7. The plants shall be eligible for any other special awards.
 - 8. The entire horticulture section of the show shall be judged by AVSA standards and by qualified AVSA judges.
 - 9. Judges shall present AVSA membership cards and judges' certificates as evidence that they are members and judges in good standing.
- F. Any affiliate may apply, once during the calendar year from January 1 through December 31, for one set of these awards for amateur exhibitors and one set of these awards for commercial exhibitors. These awards are available for shows sponsored by an affiliate or for shows jointly sponsored by two or more affiliates. These awards are not available for shows if any joint sponsor is not an affiliate or if the same organization is included singly and/or jointly more than once during the year, except that State, Council or Regional groups may also apply for all AVSA awards once during each calendar year.
 - 1. Affiliate Chairman shall be notified 30 days in advance of the local show that the affiliate requesting these awards is conforming to AVSA requirements.
 - 2. Two show schedules shall accompany the application for the awards.
 - 3. Report on awards: The panel of judges shall select one of its members to return the judges' score sheets, whether or not the rosettes are awarded, to the Affiliate Chairman immediately after judging with the following information:
 - a. Names of exhibitors of collections.
 - b. Names of the varieties, including the plant registration number of each.
 - 4. If rosettes are not awarded, they shall be returned by the Show Chairman within one week after the close of the show, or a penalty charge of \$2 for each rosette shall be made.

AWARD MEMBERSHIPS

See Bylaws, Article II, Section 3.

AVSA COLLECTION AWARDS (gold and purple rosettes)

- A. Awards may be given
 - 1. At annual convention show.
 - 2. At an African violet show which is sponsored by one or more AVSA affiliates. The award may not be requested for a violet section in a show sponsored by a garden club, horticultural society, other plant society exposition, or fair.
 - 3. If the convention show schedule has classes for the AVSA Collection Awards, the Awards Chairman shall have two sets of these awards available for the show.
 - 4. These rosettes shall be the same for local and convention shows.
 - B. A collection shall be comprised of three different registered varieties all of which must be of the same type either three standards, three miniatures, three semiminiatures, or three trailers either standard of miniature.
 - 1. A collection shall be exhibited in a separate class in show.
 - 2. Registration number of each variety shall be given on the point-score form.
 - C. Exhibitor shall be an AVSA member in good standing and shall present AVSA membership card as evidence.
 - D. Exhibitor may enter only one collection in a show.
 - E. Judging
 - 1. Shall be by three AVSA judges.
 - 2. Each plant shall be point scored.
- A. Eligibility
 - 1. One or more affiliates may sponsor a show either singly or jointly and may apply once during the calendar year of January 1 through December 31 for this award. They may also request the AVSA Collection Awards. "State, Council or Regional groups may also apply for all AVSA awards once during each calendar year."
 - 2. All sponsors shall be AVSA affiliates.
 - 3. Show shall score 90 or more points to receive this award.
 - B. Requirements
 - 1. Local Show Chairman shall apply to the AVSA Affiliate Chairman for blank point-score sheets for evaluating the AVSA Standard Show.
 - 2. The Show Chairman shall receive the score sheet for evaluating the show and green and

AVSA STANDARD SHOW AWARD (SSA green and white rosette)

- A. Eligibility
 - 1. One or more affiliates may sponsor a show either singly or jointly and may apply once during the calendar year of January 1 through December 31 for this award. They may also request the AVSA Collection Awards. "State, Council or Regional groups may also apply for all AVSA awards once during each calendar year."
 - 2. All sponsors shall be AVSA affiliates.
 - 3. Show shall score 90 or more points to receive this award.
- B. Requirements
 - 1. Local Show Chairman shall apply to the AVSA Affiliate Chairman for blank point-score sheets for evaluating the AVSA Standard Show.
 - 2. The Show Chairman shall receive the score sheet for evaluating the show and green and

blue cards to be displayed if one or both of the rosettes are awarded.

3. If the SSA is not won, the judge appointed by the Judges' Chairman shall return both cards and the score sheet to the Affiliate Chairman.
4. If the SSA is awarded, the rosette will be mailed to the Show Chairman of the affiliate when the Affiliate Chairman receives the score sheet.
5. If the show is eligible to receive the Standard Show Achievement Award (SSAA - two-toned blue rosette) the Show Chairman shall be informed, but the award shall be presented at the following AVSA convention.
6. Two schedules shall accompany the application for the award. These schedules shall be the same as the judges receive. One schedule shall also be included with the point-score sheet which the judges shall mail to the Affiliate Chairman.
7. Regardless of the score, the point-score sheet showing judges' evaluation of the show shall be mailed by one of the judges to the Affiliate Chairman after completion of judging.
8. The results of the evaluation shall be the sole property of the AVSA Affiliate Chairman. However, when an affiliate fails to receive this award, the President or Show Chairman may write to the AVSA Affiliate Chairman to learn where it failed.

C. Judging

1. Shall be judged by AVSA Standard Show scale of points and AVSA scales of points shall be used for judging entire show.
2. There is one exception: In local affiliate shows judges shall be permitted to use National Council scales of points for judging any classes in the design division for which AVSA does not have a scale of points.
3. Only qualified AVSA judges shall be eligible to judge the specimen classes and for all special awards which may be given.
4. National Council judges may judge the design division. They may also help in judging for the AVSA Standard Show Award.
5. Show may be judged by either merit or competitive method of judging.
6. The Show Chairman shall supply the judges with the following information:
 - a. Number of members exhibiting.
 - b. Number of horticulture exhibits and number of design exhibits.Note: Two-thirds of the total number of exhibits shall be from the specimen classes.
 - c. Number of blue, red, and white ribbons awarded in each division. All ribbons awarded to AVSA members and to non-members shall be counted.
 - d. Total membership of group.
7. One judge shall be appointed by the Judges' Chairman for clerical correctness of the form and shall be responsible in case of error.

AVSA STANDARD SHOW ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (SSAA - two-toned blue rosette)

- A. Two-toned blue rosettes shall be awarded at each AVSA convention to the affiliates that have won the

SSA (green and white rosette) with at least 95 points during the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.

- B. All requirements under horticulture and AVSA objectives, including the number of members exhibiting, the total number of exhibits and total membership of the affiliate, shall be clerically correct.
- C. The list of affiliates winning this award shall be supplied by the Affiliate Chairman to the Awards Chairman not later than March 1.

AVSA SWEEPSTAKES AWARD FOR COUNCIL, STATE OR REGIONAL SHOWS

- A. Councils, state societies, regional or judges councils pay \$15 AVSA dues per year.
- B. An award in silver, polished pewter or other suitable material shall be purchased by the Affiliate Chairman and sent to eligible affiliates upon request for this award. The request shall include two show schedules. These affiliates may apply also for the AVSA Collection awards and the AVSA Standard Show point-score sheet.
- C. This award shall be given to the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons in both the horticulture and design divisions in a show.
- D. While it is hoped that all winners shall be AVSA members, this is not a requirement.

Hint From a Novice Grower

*Mrs. Harry G. Garner
304 Buckeye Trail
Austin, TX 78746*

Do you wick water your African violets? Do you alternate fertilizers? Because some fertilizers are similar in color, do you forget — as I do — which you used last?

Solution to having to make notes or mark containers: Place a small, different colored glass marble in your reservoirs for each fertilizer used — red for 20-20-20; blue for 12-36-14, etc. It is much simpler to keep up with only three or four colors than to recall or catalogue which fertilizer has been used in innumerable containers.

NAMED CULTIVARS for

AUSTIN

1978 CONVENTION AWARDS

"Dardevil", "Dora Baker", "Edith V. Peterson",
"Millie Blair", "Winter Grape", "Sandra",
"Gevieve", "Little John", "Bergen
Strawberry Sherbert", "Mini Fantasy",
"Poodle Top" and "Ruth Carey".

CONVENTION MINUTES

31st ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, April 26, 1977

The meeting convened at 8:10 P.M. in the Georgian Room of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO with President Melva Nelson presiding. The invocation was given by Miss Edith Peterson. Parliamentarian Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson was present.

President Nelson introduced the director nominees. Since the Secretary, Mrs. Hamilton, was not present she asked for approval to appoint Elisabeth Hansen, nominee for Secretary, to act as Secretary pro tem.

The following officers, directors and standing committee chairmen were present: Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Beattie, Leary, Schroeder, Bogin, Bolland, Burton, Hawley, Merrell, Lahr, Chase, Lidiak, Richardson, Baker, Crane, Rienhardt, Tretter, Anderson, Carey, Misses Peterson and Garrity and Messrs Stone, McArthur, Plaster, Watson, Buell. Absent were Mesdames Hamilton, Huebscher, Messrs Richter, Grissom and Tinari.

Present by invitation from the President, having voice but no vote, were director nominees Mesdames Fladt, Lex, McKneely and Tyson with Mrs. Fiedler absent. Also present were Mrs. Clarice Bell, Office Manager; Mrs. Grace Foote, Editor; Gus Becker, publisher, and chairmen of special committees Mesdames Plaster, Van Zele and Slocumb, Mrs. Gonzales and Frank Burton were absent.

The President appointed the following committee to approve the convention minutes: Miss Peterson and Mesdames Krogman and Lahr.

Reports were given by the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Treasurer, Affiliate (32 Green Rosettes and 11 Blue Rosettes awarded during the past year), Awards, Boyce Edens Research Fund, Convention Program and Convention Time and Place Chairman.

At this time a MOTION was made by Dora Baker that AVSA accept the invitation of the New York State African Violet Society to hold the 1982 convention in Syracuse, New York. Motion carried.

Dora Baker made a MOTION to change Standing Rule on page 10, VII C to read "After convention reports are completed, convention manuals shall be returned to Convention Time and Place Chairman." Motion carried.

Dora Baker made a MOTION to change the Convention Manual, page 15, 6: after "Show and Judges Chairman" insert "Publication Chairman." Motion carried.

Further reports were presented by Library, Membership and Promotion, Nominating Committee, Plant Registrations (195 registrations made by 106 applicants), Master Variety List, Publications, Commercial Activities, Shows and Judges (26 judging schools held, 418 judges certificates and 3 teachers certificates issued), Advertising Manager, Editor, Publisher, Office Manager, Best Variety and Honor Roll (read by Secretary pro tem), Classification of Miniature and Semiminiatures, Booster Fund (\$689.71), Cumulative Index and Public Relations (569 new members obtained through ads placed in 4 plant publications).

As reports are read and accepted they are filed with the Secretary Pro tem's original copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M. until 9 A.M. Wednesday,

x/Elisabeth H. Hansen, Secretary

x/Edith V. Peterson

x/Adeline Krogman

x/Emma Lahr

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, April 27, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M. in the Georgian Room of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO by President Melva Nelson. Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, Parliamentarian was present. The roll call was the same as Tuesday evening's meeting except that Frank Tinari was present and Mesdames Tretter, Plaster and Van Zele and Mr. McArthur were absent.

Frank Tinari gave the report of the Research Committee. He made a MOTION that \$1,000 be given to the University of Wisconsin to aid in research on micro tissue culture, Motion carried.

Gene Garner made a MOTION that Standing Rule page 41, X B 3 be changed to read "Slide fee - \$3.00 plus return postage for individual members and AVSA Affiliate organizations. Fee for non-members be raised from \$5.00 to \$6.00 plus return postage. Packet fee - \$2.00 plus return postage". Add "To become effective July 1, 1977." Motion carried.

Gene Garner moved that her recommendation for a Library Office Assistant be employed to work a maximum of 12 hours a week at \$2.50 an hour be adopted. Motion carried. Neva Anderson, Publications Chairman, presented the following recommendations of the Publications Committee:

Shorten convention programs in the AVM giving only essential information needed before arrival at the convention and give the complete hour by hour program in the souvenir book.

Give the Advertising Manager the right to refuse ads if a number of complaints are received.

Move the STRICTLY BUSINESS page to inside front cover for a better format.

That all who have special assignments for magazine material, all columnists and officers shall be ex officio members of the Publications Committee.

Condense the Life Member list by omitting street addresses.

Change the order of listing in the June Magazine. First name Officers, Directors and Committee Chairmen followed by the Past Presidents and Honorary Life Members, then list the Bronze Medal Winners (who have not been listed), then Life Members.

Place ads in the back of the magazine rather than in the front.

All recommendations were approved by the board.

Neva Anderson presented the following MOTIONS from the Publications Committee:

That the magazine be increased by 8 pages, making a total of 88 pages. Motion carried.

That, should an ad requesting a special plant or a special issue of the magazine be received, give the Advertising Manager permission to return the money with a

letter stating that such requests are published as a service without charge, space permitting. Motion carried.

In Standing Rule on page 20, III - remove word "back". Change III A to read "Issues of current volume and the two preceding volumes shall be offered for sale at \$1.25 per copy." Delete C and change B to read: "Issues of all earlier volumes shall be at \$1.00 per copy". Motion carried.

On page 19 change Standing Rule I B 2 - remove "List of Teachers and Judges" and insert "Shows and Judges Information," Rule 1 B 3 - remove: "Shows and Judges Information" and insert "List of Teachers and Judges". Motion carried.

That Standing Rule, page 19 II B 1, advertising rates, be increased by approximately 20% to the following rates, effective January 1, 1978.

Rate per column inch	Rate per page
1" @ \$15.00 per inch	1/4 page \$ 47.50
2" @ 12.00 per inch	1/2 page 90.00
3" @ 11.50 per inch	Full page 160.00
4" @ 11.00 per inch	

Motion carried.

That the BEST VARIETIES - HONOR ROLL COMPILER be instructed to send copies of the committee report or a shorter version such as the "top 25" as a publicity promotion for AVSA. That this report be sent early (in August) marked "for release November 1" (the publication date for the AVM) to horticulture magazines and those magazines in which AVSA carries promotional ads. Motion carried.

That the Culture Folders with AVSA imprint be "free for postage cost" be promoted in the AVM by an article giving cost of postage for a specified number of folders. Motion lost.

That the services of Grace Foote as Editor and Gus Becker as printer be retained for the coming year. Motion carried.

Ann Richardson moved that reference to motion made re convention registration fees be stricken from the Minutes of the Board meeting held 5/1/76 as incorrect. Motion carried.

Ann Richardson made a MOTION to change the Standing Rule on page 9 II A to read: "Entire Convention (before cut off date) \$6.50. After convention cut off date \$8.00." Change B to read "One day (before cut off date) \$3.50. After convention cut off date \$5.00". Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 12 noon until 1:30 P.M. in the Georgian Room.

The meeting reconvened at 1:35 P.M. in the Georgian Room. Attendance was the same. Parliamentarian, Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson was present.

Neva Anderson made a MOTION that the committee list published in the June 1978 AVM, the name and address be printed for each chairman but that committee members be listed by name only without addresses. Motion lost.

A MOTION was made by Edith Peterson that Standing Rule on page 15 VI A be changed to read "Commercial members or affiliates" instead of "Individual members or affiliates" and add the words "effective March 1, 1978." Motion carried.

D. J. Lidiak made a MOTION that the Standing Rule on page 37, Rule IV A 1 be changed to read "solicit contributions from affiliates and individuals through the AVM column". Motion carried.

D. J. Lidiak made a MOTION that a cross reference be added as No. 6 under IV 5 - "Refer to Rule IV A page 11 of Standing Rules." Motion carried.

Shows and Judges Chairman Ruth Carey announced that the 1975 revision of The Judges and Exhibitors Handbook is the last she would do and that she would like to release her copyrights on the book to AVSA. However, new copies are needed and prices were quoted for a reprint to include the changes made since its publication.

Ellie Bogin made a MOTION that all expenses for the transfer of the copyright to AVSA be paid by AVSA. Motion carried.

Edith Peterson made a MOTION that AVSA arrange for the reprint of 2,000 books with the changes made since the last printing. Motion carried.

At the suggestion of Neva Anderson, Ruth Carey was given a standing ovation to express the thanks of AVSA for her generous donation of the copyright.

Ruth Carey made the following recommendations for changes in the Standing Rules and Judges Handbook:

Standing Rule, page 7, X C 6 c (Handbook page 74, C 6 c) - change to read: "Number of blue, red and white ribbons awarded in each division. All ribbons awarded to AVSA members and to non-members shall be counted." Delete d. Correct e to d.

In Handbook on page 75 add a new 3 a - "All ribbons awarded to AVSA members and non-members shall be counted." Present "a" will become 3 b.

Standing Rule, page 25, definitions (Handbook page 98) - change the definition of seedling by removing the last four words, "of an original plant."

Standing Rule, page 31, VIII C 3 a (Handbook page 100 C 3 a) substitute for a. "As one question, 10 points shall be given if the student's score on all three plants meets the requirement of 5 points above or below the teacher's score. Each plant will receive 2 1/3 points for each correct score and 1 point on each plant for comments." Delete b and change c to b.

Standing Rule, page 34, X B 4 (Handbook page 103 B 4) - delete "\$1.00" and insert "\$1.25." Delete "50" and insert "25".

Ruth Carey made a MOTION that these recommendations be accepted. Motion carried.

Ruth Carey read a recommendation from Elisabeth Hansen that the following recommendation of the New Jersey Council of African Violet Judges be considered: That in yearbook judging the full credit of 10 points be based on 50% of the membership of an affiliate rather than the 100% presently used. This percentage would be in line with the percentage used in judging for the AVSA Standard Show Award as a basis for reasonably expected participation. Elisabeth Hansen made a MOTION that the recommendation be accepted. Motion lost.

Ann Richardson made a MOTION that there be no speaker at the Friday night banquets at the conventions. Motion carried.

The special committee appointed to work on a plan to recommend combining amateur and commercial divisions of the convention shows recommended the following: That the committee study this change for another year, at which time a final report will be submitted to the AVSA Board at the 1978 convention. Some of the points which were discussed were a better definition of amateur and commercial members and whether those who advertise in the magazine should pay commercial dues. Mrs. Rienhardt agreed to write an article for the magazine on commercial membership.

Ruth Carey made a MOTION that the recommendation be accepted. Motion carried.

Ruth Carey announced that the Judges Newsletters would be discontinued after a final one to be sent after convention with the new changes approved by the board.

Lizeta Hamilton presented a recommendation (read by the Secretary pro tem) that an ad hoc subcommittee be established to review the AVSA Standing Rules. Elisabeth Hansen made a MOTION that this recommendation be accepted. Motion lost.

Celine Chase made a MOTION that Standing Rule, page 4, V 2 - AVSA MEMBER SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS (Handbook page 73 A 2) be changed to read "If there is a tie in blue ribbons when tabulating to determine the sweepstakes winner; red ribbons shall be counted; if a tie still exists, white ribbons shall be counted. If still a tie, the winner shall be selected by the drawing of names." Motion carried.

Celine Chase made a MOTION that Standing Rule, page 3, V - AVSA MEMBER SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS (Handbook page 72 A) be changed to read:

A. Two silver bowls, not exceeding four inches in diameter, and two rosettes; for the most blue ribbons in horticulture classes; two silver bowls and two rosettes for the most blue ribbons in design classes shall be awarded to the AVSA members who win the most blue ribbons in shows sponsored by affiliates during the calendar year from January 1 through December 1.

Ruth Carey made a MOTION that the previous motion be amended to provide for three silver bowls and three rosettes for the horticulture classes. Amendment carried. Amended motion carried.

Estelle Crane, Finance Chairman, reviewed the budget. A MOTION was made that an additional typewriter be purchased for the Knoxville office. Motion carried.

Irene Merrell made a MOTION that AVSA purchase 100,000 entry tags to be shipped to the Knoxville office. Motion carried.

Estelle Crane made a MOTION that the office manager, the editor and the permanent and temporary office help be given an increase in salary to become effective May 1, 1977. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

x/Elisabeth H. Hansen, Secretary pro tem

x/Edith V. Peterson

x/Adeline Krogman

x/Emma Lahr

31st ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, April 31, 1977

The annual business meeting of the African Violet Society of America, Inc., was called to order at 9:40 A.M. by President Melva Nelson in the Empire Room of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, MO. Parliamentarian Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson was present.

The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Miss Peterson, and Mesdames Krogman and Lahr.

In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs. Hamilton, the President appointed Elisabeth Hansen, nominee for Secretary, to act as Secretary pro tem.

The following executive officers and directors were present: Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Beattie, Schroeder, Bogin, Burton, Hawley, Merrell, Boland, Lahr, Misses Peterson and Garrity, Messrs Stone, Buell and McArthur. Absent were Mesdames Hamilton, Huebscher, Leary, Messrs Richter and Grissom.

The Treasurer read the report of receipts and disbursements. A MOTION was made to accept the auditor's report. Motion carried.

Resolutions Chairman, Ann Slocomb, read the Resolu-

tions: Whereas, information, inspiration and sociability have been graciously provided for all present; therefore be it Resolved that we convey our sincere appreciation and gratitude: To the Chairman of this convention, Mrs. Daniel Dohm, Jr., St. Louis, MO., and to the Vice Chairman, Mrs. Dana R. Gipson, St. Louis, MO., and their entire committee, for their very efficient planning and fine organization of the convention. To the Show Chairman, Mrs. Jane M. Francis, whose able assistance added much to the success of the convention. To our dedicated President, Mrs. E. A. (Melva) Nelson, St. Louis, MO., for help in preparation for this convention, for her untiring devotion, loyalty and thoughtfulness to all our members. To our Treasurer, Miss Florence M. Garrity, for her loyalty to our Society. To the Program Chairman, Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson, and her assistants for their preparations for educational workshops, for arranging beneficial programs, and for obtaining and scheduling interesting speakers. To the Awards Chairman, Mrs. Richard A. Chase and committee, for her competent work in securing the merit awards in acknowledgment of superlative artistic and horticultural accomplishments. To our Chairman of Shows and Judges, Mrs. James B. Carey, for her untiring effort, understanding and loyalty to the AVSA and her committee. To the Commercial Chairman, Mr. Jimmy Watson, and members who participated in the show, and to the amateur exhibitors who contributed to the distinction of the show. To the Executive Board members, the Board of Directors, the Standing Committee Chairmen, and their committees for their devotion and perseverance in the performance of their duties. To our honored guests: Mrs. Robert T. Neal, President, Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.; Dr. Marc Cathey, Chief, Ornamentals Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture ("All Lamps Are Grow Lamps"). The newspaper, television and radio personnel for their services in publicizing this convention. To the Manager and his staff of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO., for courteous and amiable attention and their consideration for the needs of those members present at the convention. TO ALL MEMBERS of our Society who contributed their time and efforts to make a grand success of this our thirty-first convention; and be it further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this convention.

A MOTION was made that these resolutions be adopted. Motion carried.

The nominating committee report was read and President Nelson asked for further names for each elective post and any of the offices. There being none the nominations were closed and the Secretary pro tem was instructed to cast the ballot for President, Mrs. E. A. Nelson; First Vice President, Mrs. Marvin E. Garner; Second Vice President, Mrs. William J. Krogman; Third Vice President, Harvey Stone; Secretary, Mrs. H. N. Hansen, Treasurer, Miss Florence M. Garrity, and directors, Mrs. Lester S. Fladt, Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Miss Sandra Lex, Mrs. Thomas B. McKneely and Miss Nell Sue Tyson. The President declared the officers and directors duly elected.

Mrs. James B. Carey installed the officers and directors and presented a book of poems to President Nelson.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M. with announcement that the Board meeting would follow immediately in the Stockholm Room.

x/Elisabeth H. Hansen, Secretary pro tem

x/Edith V. Peterson

x/Adeline Krogman

x/Emma Lahr

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, April 31, 1977

The meeting of the AVSA Board of Directors was called to order by President Melva Nelson at 10:40 A.M. in the Stockholm Room of the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, MO. Parliamentarian Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson was present.

The meeting was opened with an invocation given by Helen Van Zele.

President Melva Nelson asked approval of the board for the appointment of Mildred Schroeder as Affiliate Chairman and Harvey Stone as Library Chairman. A MOTION was made by Mary Boland that these appointments be accepted. Motion carried.

The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes: Miss Peterson and Mesdams Krogman and Lahr.

The booklet of officers, directors and committees for the ensuing year was given to each member of the board. Corrections were made in the list of committees.

The following officers, directors and standing committee chairmen were present: Mesdames Nelson, Garner, Krogman, Hansen, Bogin, Burton, Hawley, Merrell, Boland, Lahr, Fladt, Lex, McKneely, Tyson, Schroeder, Chase, Lidiak, Richardson, Crane, Rienhardt, Tretter, Anderson, Carey, Misses Peterson and Garrity, Messrs Stone, Buell, McArthur, Plaster, Watson and Tinari. Absent were Mesdames Baker, Fiedler and Mr. Grissom.

Present by invitation of the President, having voice but no vote, were Mesdames Bell, Foote, Van Zele, Slocumb, and Mr. Becker. Absent were Mesdames Gonzales, Plaster, Leary and Mr. Burton.

The revised budget was read by Estelle Crane. A MOTION was made by Estelle Crane that it be accepted

as revised. Motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Mildred Schroeder that we reconsider the rule which says that all double gene plants must be placed in the double classes and that this be reconsidered at the Austin Board meeting. Motion carried.

Ellie Bogin made a MOTION that semiminiature and miniature trailers not be restricted as to size limitations or pot size and may be placed in a pot in proportion to the size of the plant and that the miniature semitrailers be discontinued as a class but be included with the miniatures. Motion carried.

Irene Merrell made a MOTION that any part of a workshop, program, etc., at conventions may be taped for information except when the speaker objects. Motion carried.

The Treasurer made a MOTION that approval be granted for an Austin Texas Convention account to be established in the Austin National Bank. Motion carried.

Albert Buell made a MOTION that Ruth Carey be authorized to countersign the Knoxville office checks with the Office Manager. Motion carried.

Adeline Krogman made a MOTION that Standing Rule, page 6, IX F and X A 1 (Handbook page 72 G and page 73 A 1) the sentence be added "except that State, Council or Regional groups may also apply for all AVSA awards once during each calendar year." Motion carried.

Jimmy Watson gave an interim Commercial Sales and Exhibits report.

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 P.M.

x/Elisabeth H. Hansen, Secretary

x/Edith V. Peterson

x/Adeline Krogman

x/Emma Lahr

Population Explosion!!!

*Pamela Groff
492 Lafayette Ave.
Passaic, NJ 07055*

Nobody told me they would multiply like rabbits! Only 2 short years ago, I had 3, just 3, African violets. Today I have 1500 and more new ones being "born" everyday. It was so easy. All I had to do was just plant a leaf, and I was hooked. Growing violets is just like eating peanuts. You can't stop!

There are so many lovely new plants, seems like I have to have every one. I delight in visiting the greenhouses and have been to Granger's, Lyon's and Maas'. I also am a faithful patron of the mail-order sources that advertise in this magazine. And I have many generous violet-loving friends. Now even I have started my own mail-order business.

As most violet growers love to share their beautiful plants with others, I'd thought I'd share my method for multiplying them. So far it has been about 99% effective and I've planted hundreds of leaves these past two years.

First, take a nice healthy leaf. I've found that it doesn't matter which row it comes from as long as it is healthy looking. If the leaf is large, cut the top 1/3 of the leaf off, to prevent the leaf from growing larger. Cut the petiole on a 45-degree angle. Then, and I think this is the secret to most of my success: lightly dust the cut tip with ferbam. This is not a rooting hormone, but a fungicide. It prevents damping off.

Plant the leaves in separate 1¼-inch pots half filled with zonolite (coarse vermiculite). I like the small pots because the roots fill them quickly and it seems the babies come up faster. I'm a believer in the old 'tight shoe' theory.

Place the newly planted leaves in trays about 8-10 inches from the lights and keep moist with ¼ strength Peter's African Violet Special. When the new little babies come up, in no time at all, report them in soil in a 2¼ pot. I like to put mine on wicks. After about 2 or 3 weeks in the soil, the pot will be brimming over with lots of babies. Be nice and share them all with your friends!

Greenhouse Growing

*Julia Brittain
311 Mill Stream
Houston, TX 77060*

Since January of '76 I have been learning, mostly by trial and error, to grow African violets in a greenhouse. After waiting six months for my husband to find the time to build me one light stand, I knew that I wanted a commercially built greenhouse. It is an aluminum, fiberglass, and polyethylene addition onto the southeast side of my house. The roof is clear, corrugated fiberglass; three-foot high walls and supports are aluminum; and the windows are polyethylene fitted into removable aluminum frames.

The greenhouse is about 250 square feet and has electricity, an evaporative (water) cooler (2000 CFI), and a natural gas heater (75,000 BTU). Heat is no problem as the heater is thermostatically controlled and the greenhouse is protected from the north winds.

Cooling is the main problem in the summer . . . 105° out in the greenhouse when the temperature outside is only 88°. The water cooler does provide about 90% humidity during the summer months which is probably why the plants grow so well even during the Texas summers. Blooms have been scarce, though, for about a month. Everything possible is wicked and the watering trays need to be filled about once a week . . . only once every two weeks during the winter.

Cost per square foot was slightly more than I had estimated. I forgot to add "little" things such as a \$55 roll of shade fabric, shading compound, wood for the tables, and 50 trays to wick into. Some things I didn't forget, but underestimated on, were the electrician's bill for wiring it all up and the heating company's bill for running a gas line, hooking it up, and venting through the roof. \$8.50 a square foot slowly inflated to \$10.00.

My last electrical bill convinced me to sell four large stands to cut down on both the heat and the amount of electricity I used. After all, a greenhouse is most efficient when it uses only natural light for growing.

I would like to add a de-ionization water tank. It seems that our level of salinity is acceptable except during the dry months of August and September. Apparently, the water level at Lake Houston is lowered and the salinity, as a consequence, rises. It doesn't seem to affect plants under 15" across but wipes out larger plants. Sure am glad our show is in the spring!

Much about greenhouse growing I learned in advance by picking the brains of good friends . . . some I had to learn the hard way. I discovered what happens when you try to foliar feed your plants and leave the cooler on for a few minutes afterwards. Two days later I was tossing "burned" plants. Over two months, I tossed 300 African violets and am still picking out extra centers of those that remain.

The fight against "bugs" is constant. Inspection and treatment of every plant I bring in keeps pests to a minimum. Spraying is much easier and faster than drenching, too. I have switched to Isotox because of the lack of offensive odor. I also spray in April and August with Benomyl to combat botrytis which can spread at an alarming rate in a greenhouse.

Lighting remains the changing element. In winter I remove the shade fabric and in summer I'm putting it up again . . . and praying for cloudy days. Only 2/3rds of the roof is painted with shading compound to allow more light to "hit" the Episcias and Columneas hanging from the roof supports.

This spring I hope to have a much more efficient operation with scads of blooming plants of all types. Then I will probably be able to write a book on "What Not To Do To African Violets!"

Grows Violets In TV Cabinet

All it takes is a little ingenuity for African violet growers to fashion suitable growing places for their violets.

Mrs. V. H. Roelle of Peetz, CO 90747 tells about her violet stand. Here's her story:

"When our old black and white TV wore out, I had an electrician remove all inside parts, leaving only the nice wood cabinet. (Be sure to have it done by an electrician. I am told it is dangerous for an ordinary person like me to handle that big tube.) Next my husband installed grow-lights and an adjustable glass shelf. I lined it with pretty contact paper. There is also room on top for grow-lights with legs. I receive many compliments on my lovely violets and stand."



ART SMALL SCALE, Shown in St. Louis by Mrs. Edna M. Kunz (Photo by Burton)

YOUR LIBRARY

Harvey L. Stone
51 Peach Highlands
Marblehead, MA 01945



The 31st annual AVSA convention is now history. And what history! I understand the show was the largest we've ever had—nearly twice the number of entries in Horticulture Division alone! This was the "Third Time Around", the third time St. Louis had hosted an AVSA convention. All St. Louis convention chairmen and their committees deserve much credit and appreciation. They were wonderful hosts.

As always, our deep appreciation goes to those tireless members who worked most all of Thursday night taking pictures so that the Library might have new slide programs, cover photos for our beautiful magazine. The faithful few included photographers Lois Newton Russell, Mrs. Wayne (Mildred) Schroeder, Edgar Varick, past president Frank Burton and your Library Committee Chairman. Frank Burton is always the last to leave as the new day dawns. Those assisting included Mrs. Edward (Virginia) Hamilton, Mrs. Wm. J. (Adeline) Krogman, Mrs. Chas (Catherine) Hawley, Mrs. James (Irene) Merrell, Mrs. Mary A. Boland, Mrs. John (Nancy) Hayes, Edd Stretch Smith and William J. Wolf. Assisting with the design division were Mrs. Ross V. (Emma) Lahr and Mrs. Henry (Ruby) Bircher. I have not intentionally left anyone out, but if there are any omissions, please advise me and I will correct them in a later column.

Once again, thanks to Ethel and Duane Champion's new varieties program, the Library will have a new slide program, "Gateway to Violets". We have to thank the Champions and other commercial growers/hybridizers responsible for this program. These programs are now available from the AVSA Library, Knoxville Office, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901. Please order well in advance of your meeting date. The slide programs are always popular and must be carefully scheduled ahead of time. The Knoxville office scheduled and mailed out 833 library programs during fiscal 1976. Clarice Bell, Knoxville Office Manager, is doing a fine job and will appreciate your early requests. At the St. Louis Convention, your Board of Directors voted to increase the fee for each slide program borrowed to \$3 to help cover the increased costs

of handling and postage.

With each program is enclosed a comment sheet to be filled out and returned, either with the program to the Knoxville Office or, if the program is to be sent directly to the next club, the sheet should be sent directly to Knoxville by letter mail. Your constructive criticisms and suggestions can help us to revise wherever possible as well as in making up new programs. We would like to know if there would be any interest in having regional slide programs made up of slides taken of prize winning plants and arrangements during the last few years. Would you like such programs? Please let us know.

There are also new yearbook packets available for borrowing. We had a beautiful display of yearbooks at St. Louis. Have you been wishing your club could put out its own yearbook? Or perhaps change and/or improve its present one? Why not borrow one or more packets? You may find just what you are looking for. Does your Club presently have what you think is a good yearbook? Why not enter it for judging next year? Remember, AVSA offers four awards in the yearbook division. Check your June magazine for listings of programs available from the Library. Send two (2) copies of your yearbook to Mrs. Shirley R. Jeffrey, 1918 Williamsbury Row, Denton, TX 76201. All yearbook entries should be in her possession not later than March 1, 1978.

Once again, we must emphasize, PLEASE follow all instructions for ordering and using the library material. These are found in the June issue of the African Violet Magazine. Specific guidelines will be enclosed with many of the slide programs. To insure that your club, as well as future borrowers, may get the maximum enjoyment out of the programs, these guidelines must be followed. Now for those of you who say the above is repetitive, it is! Some of our affiliates still do not seem to have read and understood them. Recently your Library Chairman received a request for a program without a check enclosed. The instructions make it clear that a check for the proper amount must be enclosed and that the request must be addressed to

the Knoxville Office.

Those of you fortunate enough to have attended one of the two shows put on Wednesday evening in St. Louis by our candid cameraman, Gus Becker, had an extra special treat. Mr. Reinholdt Holtkamp, the son of the man responsible for the Rhapsodie violets from Isselburg, West Germany, showed some slides of their operations. Featured were violets from their new strain, "Optimara"

which are being named for the various 50 states. They were truly beautiful. About 14 had already been released and we were told, should be available in part of the East Coast shortly.

We are ever mindful that it is you and your interest in the most popular house plant ever, its culture and enjoyment, both in your homes and at shows, which make AVSA the largest plant society in the world.

Up with Flower Power! We Need Oxygen!

Well, as I Live and Breathe!

*Andy and Carol Anderson
9615 Flower Street
Bellflower, CA 90706*

How often I heard my Grandmother use that expression of surprise. She was not really ecology-minded in those days. Surrounded by thousands of acres of Iowa cornfields, orchards, grazing land and forests, the air was pure and clear. Homes had large lawns and huge trees. I remember hand-mowing lawns forever in the summer, raking bushels of leaves in the fall. The business district faced four sides of "The Square", band concerts Saturday nights in the summer.

Window boxes with her pots of treasured coleus, begonias and geraniums! Frost time and they were removed inside by the windows. No thought then of our oxygen supply.

About 1942, driving from Los Angeles to Knott's Berry Farm was a delight. The overpowering sweet scent of orange blossoms was constant as you passed through hundreds of acres of citrus groves. Replace orange groves with freeways, streets, houses, shopping malls, motels and parking lots and Orange County becomes "Asphalt County." Only Walter Knott retained his grassy, tree-lined parking lots, with the banty roosters cleaning up the insects.

Few people give thought to the source of oxygen. Billions of people and animals inhaling oxygen, exhaling carbon dioxide; combustion engines gulping oxygen, expelling unbreathable gases. Why don't we run out of oxygen? The world's greatest single source is the Amazon jungle. South America please don't civilize and sub-divide the Amazon! Jungles and forests continually absorb carbon dioxide, combine the carbon with minerals to supply the carbohydrates needed for growth and expel the lovely, lovely oxygen. This spreads over the world for our use, but slowly.

Meanwhile, back at home, the current house plant and garden enthusiasm provides us with beauty, food and most of all, instant oxygen.

Don't underestimate the power of a philodendron!

We are not ecology freaks. In my opinion they and the EPA have done little but retard production and our economy. We do appreciate plants and it is nice to have our income and oxygen supply in The Green House, right here at home.

So up with flower power! Treasure your African violets! Breathe deeply! Talk to your plants, but stand close so they benefit from the carbon dioxide you exhale! (Carol says the closest I get to the plants is when I sell them).

Well, as I live and breathe! I'm sure that 'Garnet Elf' winked its garnet eye at me.

Greenhouse Catalog Now Off the Press

"The Greenhouse Catalog of Catalogs", edited by Paul Lapidus, was off the press this summer and was published by David McKay Company, Inc., 750 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

A handsome catalog of 177 pages, beautifully illustrated with pictures of various types of greenhouses, the book presents an exciting new concept designed for the informed consumer. With the growing enthusiasm and interest of gardeners and plant hobbyists, the private greenhouse is becoming increasingly popular.

This invaluable book will take the difficulty and uncertainty out of shopping in this rapidly expanding market. This reference source includes price lists, area distribution guides, and all original diagrams and photographs. In fact, all the information necessary for prospective greenhouse buyers has been compiled in this one easy-to-use volume.

**MRS. C. S.
HAWLEY
hybridizes
two new
beauties.**

(Photos by Thos. Clark Parma)



KATY'S PRIDE

BETTE ROSEREA



Max Maas
of
Hilton Dahlia
Farms

(Photos by Schroeder)



WHITE LYNN

CELIA





A Foote on the Violet Path

By Grace Foote

In the February issue of "Blossoms," the official publication of the Seattle AVS, Inc., we learned that Emory Leland was thinking about retiring as Editor. We regret this very much for during the few short years we've been corresponding with him, we've learned that he is a very knowledgeable African violet grower, who takes time to do a lot of research and exhaustive study on African violets. He is one of the foremost authorities on AV growing in Pacific Northwest. He has contributed much to the African Violet Magazine and for this, we say "Thank you, Emory." He has been a strong advocate of AVSA. Here's what he wrote in the February issue of "Blossoms"; titled "THE BEST TIP ON GROWING AFRICAN VIOLETS": "Of all the tips I have received from people since the beginning of my love affair with African violets, I believe the most valuable has been, 'Join the African Violet Society of America, Inc., and receive 5 issues of African Violet Magazine each year from March 1 to Feb. 1.' If you do not belong, now is the time to correct a serious mistake and learn to grow better violets. Send your check for \$6 for a one-year membership (includes African Violet Magazine) to AVSA, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901. You'll enjoy many good articles by experts on African violet culture, etc. If you are a member already, don't forget to renew now!" . . . Things you remember: Louis Presley of Smyrna, GA, remarking: "Only one thing crazier than a woman growing African violets is a husband who'll let her!" . . . Pauline Bartholomew of Port Huemene, CA, explaining when sketching an illustration for the African Violet Magazine, do have on hand: No-mark pencils, no-frost tape, opaque correction fluid, and ruler with column space; and also suggesting growers use nylon trotline, acrylic yarn, macrame cord, or piping cord as wicks when growing with wicks; a grower, talking about wick watering, saying: "Don't use fertilizer in growing leaves. Don't use fertilizer until the second potting" . . . Mary Reed, Tally Time editor, enjoying camping trips in the North Cascades and expressing love for her new home since she's moved to the state of Washington . . . The Clifton AVS of Passaic, NJ mighty proud that their own Marge Hammer is doing such a good job as president of the New Jersey African Violet Council, succeeding Chris Leppard, who moved to Michigan . . . Would you believe that you could have a "see-through" heat-collecting wall for a greenhouse or sunroom?

It actually consists of a venetian blind sandwiched between two sheets of insulating glass. The outer side of the blind is painted a dark color to absorb heat—dark green, brown or red-brown have all proved as effective as black, so colors in harmony with your plants and pots could be used. The heat which builds up between the glass panes is circulated through ducts to heat the greenhouse or sunroom. In summer the blind may be closed to keep the greenhouse cooler. The Clearview solar collector was developed by the Energy Research and Development Administration's Energy Research Lab at the University of Arizona . . . Helen Doster delighted that brides like violets, too. She recently sold six blue violets to use at a wedding. They were placed on the reception table and presented to the bride's attendants after the wedding. "But it was really hard to get six about the same size and color," she explained . . . Lilian Cartledge (of way up in Canada) writing during the "Winter of '77" freeze: "At the moment my garage door and driveway have a snow drift in front so this letter may not get mailed until Spring! The darned drift looks 10 feet deep — an illusion, I suppose when you must shovel it yourself!" . . . Sybil Behrens still glowing over the successful show/plant sale the Lincoln AVS had in Lincoln, NE this past spring . . . Lillian Williams, who operates Lillians' Ceramics in Ashtabula, OH, writing last fall that some day she hopes to move to a warmer climate (maybe Texas), but after this terrible "Winter of '77" up thataway, we're of the opinion that she's just about ready now to pack up her violets and come South . . . Have you heard that English nurseryman Stephen Bailey kept 5,000 carnations in perfect condition during the week of the Chelsea Show in England in 20 gallons of lemonade? He says lemonade is an excellent flower preservative. Now a British research station is investigating the method. If you try it, don't try it on more than one of your violets! . . . Ann Richardson sending in an advertisement from a gift house in Miami, FL titled "Music Hath Charms" to make the greenery grow, advertising a record album based on scientific research which demonstrates that rock music hurts plant growth while classical music actually stimulates it. "Plants in rock chamber showed sparse leaves and pale color yet classical chamber produced lush, deep green foliage", the ad read. So there you are! This, I'm sure, you can try on your plants . . . but remember only classical music.

THIRD TIME AROUND — — — COMMERCIALS WERE THERE!

(ED. NOTE: Writing this report on the Commercial Displays at the St. Louis Convention/Show were Cordelia Rienhardt of Syracuse, NY, past AVSA President; Catherine Hawley of West Southport, ME, (former editor of the Ohio State Newsletter) and Susan Lampkin of Oakville, Ontario, Canada, who said, "I was very skeptical about my ability to do them justice, but with the quality shown, my task was lightened greatly).

It was not the significance of the mammoth hall so dwarfed by the magnitude of the whole display nor the sense of awe over the loveliness within that attracted immediate attention upon entering the St. Louis Convention/Show room. No, it was the eight commercial entries which, like a magnet, drew all eyes in their direction. They were elevated slightly and formed an apparent multicolored border on framework to it all. There, at the periphery, enclosing all the beauty was a silent symbolic statement, "Here," it seemed to say, "is the ultimate beginning and continuing stimulus to the whole African violet phenomena." It represented much knowledge, rare talent, infinite patience and long tedious hours of labor so devotedly given by a few dedicated people over a period of many years.

In the small commercial classes, Section I, the Commercial Silver Cup for the best registered variety went to Mrs. William J. Krogman of Brookfield, WI. She also received the Gold Rosette for her collection of 'Lavender Tempest', 'Fashionaire' and 'Granger's Wildlife', and the Gene Garner Award for the best specimen plant 'Fashionaire'.

The Win Albright Memorial Award for the best seedling went to 'Royal Hussy'. The plant was exhibited by Mrs. George Boose of Heavenly Violets of Trumbull, CT. Irene Fredette of Fredette Originals, Orange, CT was the hybridizer.

Second best seedling award, given by Helen Van Zele, went to Tinari Greenhouses of Huntingdon Valley, PA as well as sweepstakes in Section I. Tinari's was also winner of The Crestwood Violetry Award for the best single, 'Pink Philly'; silver award, also from Crestwood for best geneva edged, 'Wild Flame'; Rienhardt Award for best Nancy Reagan, and sweepstakes award, Jimmy Watson silver tray, 23 blue ribbons.

In Section II, the Display Tables, there were 8 entries all more lovely than the other. Best commercial table by points went to Swift's of Dallas, TX with 150 points; 2nd, Rosette to Lyndon Lyon, Dolgeville, NY with 145 points; 3rd place, Buells Greenhouses, Eastford, CT with 134 points, House of Violets (Reeds), Camden, AR Honorable Mention Rosette, 4th place, 109 points, Horticultural Perfection, Rosettes which each count 15, 13

and 10 points respectively, were awarded to Swift's, 1st; Buell's 2nd, and Lyon's, 3rd. Best new Introduction Rosette went to Lyndon Lyon for a novelty type 'Pink 'N Ink', and 2nd best new introduction for a gorgeous red shade called 'Dyn-O-Mite', Third Best New Introduction was 'Sweet Violet', shown by Swift's.

In the display tables Crestwood Violetry, Springfield, VA showed an interesting display of plants, some new and some old goodies like 'ole 'Tommie Lou', a lovely plant; 'Sylvan Blue', medium blue double; 'Pinks-A-Poppin', double pink with unusual girl foliage. The Pink Rosette on this table went to 'Independence', a vibrant red double. The display received 9 blue ribbons and 2 reds. This small but growing enterprise is owned by Miss Judy Stroske, a dynamic and busy young woman who divides her time between her business and teaching horticulture at a nearby community college. She is the hybridizer of the Crestwood Zodiac Series. Her display consisted of 15 standard varieties and three miniatures. The progress which has already been made by this almost brand new business gives promise of exciting things to come.

House of Violets, Reeds from Camden, AR, had a table with the full 25, receiving 17 blues and 8 reds. Outstanding cultivars in their display included 'Something More Sport', a pink and white sport; 'My Love', a double pink geneva edged, and 'Country Gentleman', a dark blue double on 'Tommie Lou' foliage. Each received only a red ribbon, perhaps because they lost points on symmetry but, to me, showed good potential and should go far, especially 'Thriller Diller', a fuchsia raspberry, geneva edged with a large full double bloom, and 'Jack Swift', a double dark blue on 'Tommie Lou' foliage resembling 'Top Dollar' but with a larger bloom. 'Paper Lace' received a special award. It was a semidouble pink star on dark green quilted foliage. This was a display to whet the appetite of any amateur grower.

Almost half of the display of 25 African violets by Swift's African Violets, Dallas, TX, were seedlings which had distinctive, deeply serrated, slightly ruffled foliage. Each of them was a blue ribbon plant. Sturdy petioles and good symmetry



BETCHA

SWIFT'S OF DALLAS

CAT'S MEOW



was another exceptional quality. 'Southland Jungle' with orchid two-tone double blossoms, 'Cotton Bowl' with full double white blossoms and 'Heart Breaker' with huge double pink blooms were eye-catching. 'Sweet Violet', 3rd best new introduction, has pale blue semidouble blossoms on light green plain quilted foliage, both unusual and beautiful. 'Ermine' large double, white blooms with a slight pink eye, sparkled at us from above medium, tailored foliage; 'Gateway Charmer', a plant with wavy, medium green foliage displaying a full head of double medium blue blossoms, did, indeed, charm us all; and 'Fiddle Faddle', pink, semidouble blooms distinctively rayed with darker pink, covering tailored, green foliage, helped make this an outstanding display.

In the corner of the room were the displays of Ronn Nadeau of Maryland Heights, MO and Reinhold Holtkamp of Isselburg, West Germany. Both young men remained close to their exhibits and answered the questions asked by the visitors. Mr. Nadeau, a very personable young man, has been in business just three short years. He is an excellent hybridizer. His seedling, 'Jimmy Carter', won a special award. The huge raspberry red semidouble blooms above dark spooned and quilted foliage shows great promise. Included also in his display of 25 plants was a white single on medium green quilted foliage named 'Pure Water', reminding us of a cool mountain spring. It was an unusually good bloomer and evidently is an excellent grower. 'Star's Edge' was a white single star with a purple edge. This should be a delight to any amateur. 'Mizzou Lou', a lovely two-tone single, lavender star, above 'Tommie Lou' foliage, also complemented this table of new introductions. Mr. Nadeau confines his shipping business to seeds only; a different approach to the others. These seeds are accompanied with a general description of their parentage, such as color of bloom, etc. but there is no specific naming of the crosses. Growing violets from seed is a fun experience.

Reinholdt Holtkamp of West Germany also displayed his violets. Mr. Holtkamp is a pleasing young man and spoke English with little difficulty. His display consisted of uniform little plants, perfect in every way. All the blossoms on each plant had the appearance of being single. The heavy cluster of bloom was perky with stiff petioles on compact medium green quilted foliage. They came in an assortment of colors. Because these plants are not yet available to us here in North America, this display was the only one not judged and awarded ribbons. We must, however, thank Mr. & Mrs. Holtkamp for showing us their bright and lovely hybrids. The first introductions of this new series

have been named for each state of the Union. Here are three: 'Colorado', single ruffled blossoms of deep red, atop very dark, green, quilted foliage; 'Virginia', medium pink, single blossoms, also with dark green plain foliage; 'New York', very rich, dark purple blossoms, standing well above dark, green foliage.

The Hilton Dahlia Farm's entry was situated next in line. Max Maas of Springfield, NJ is owner of Hilton Dahlia Farms. His new introduction, which won a special award, was named 'Celine Chase' in honor of AVSA's very busy and efficient Awards Chairman. This plant has a medium blue fringed semidouble blossom on plain foliage and appears to be an excellent bloomer. 'Mark', a raspberry red double bloom on very dark plain foliage, was also a very outstanding plant in this display. It was a previous award winner and should be on everyone's 'must list'.

Buell's Greenhouses of Eastford, CT followed next in line. Twenty-three of the 25 plants exhibited in this display were given blue ribbons. Mr. and Mrs. Al Buell are not hybridizers of the *Saint-paulia*, consequently these very large, healthy plants were varieties introduced by other hybridizers. They grow over 600 varieties in their greenhouses. 'Pure Innocence', a beautiful plant with white double blossoms, received a special award. The Buells are specialists in hybridizing the other gesneriads and are considered a top authority on their habits of growth. There was a bounty of bloom and an array of color in this exhibit. It was truly an exceptional display and very lovely.

Last, but by no means least, was the display of Lyndon Lyon of Dolgeville, NY, one of the best known hybridizers in the country. His 'Pink n' Ink' was awarded the coveted AVSA plaque for the Best New Introduction of 1977. It has a single pink star blossom, interspersed with blue spatters, on medium green quilted foliage. The AVSA Award for the Second Best New Introduction was also received by Mr. Lyon. Its name is 'Dyn-O-Mite', a brand new seedling which explodes with very deep red semidouble blossoms on dark green plain foliage. It is a cultivar which had everyone filled with great anticipation for the time when it will be available. 'Tickled Pink', a seedling with good compact medium green foliage and double blooms of two-tone pink received a special award.

Missed among the Commercial entries this year was the usual table from Granger Gardens outstanding hybridizer of Medina, OH. However, their new introduction 'Millie Blair' was on sale in the Commercial Sales Room. It has a light blue semidouble blossom with a white edge on light green

(Continued on Page 70)

African Violet Lovers

(ED. NOTE: African violets are receiving wide publicity through newspapers all over the country. The Bucks County Courier Times' Sunday Accent! magazine carried a full color picture of an African violet on the cover page and other pictures and an article concerning "African Violet Lovers" by Janet Carter Lowrie of Levittown, Pa., and photos by E. James Pitrone).

*I never knew the joy or peace
A violet collection could release,
Until a leaf I planted — watched with awe.
And then the lovely blossoms saw.
Their beautiful foliage filled the shelves,
I felt God's presence — working like magic elves.
Yes, African violets are a gift so rare,
Their joy, with others, we should share.*

This poem, from Mary Margaret Odom's book, "African Violets and Their Family," seems to reflect the feelings of a lot of people. In fact, growing African violets is one of the more popular hobbies in the United States today.

Sprouting in less than a year from one man's dream into a 50-member organization, the African Violet Society of Lower Bucks County held its first annual show, "African Violets in the World of Music."

The one man largely responsible for the flowering of the local organization is Blair Capriotti.

The Bristol resident discovered African violets in 1973, some 81 years after their original discovery near Tanya in German East Africa.

Oh, he'd seen the plants before. After all, he had worked at a nursery for 15 years. However, it wasn't until 1973 that his personal interest in them blossomed.

Blair had suffered a slight heart attack and was advised by his physician to renew his interest in flowers (he'd left the nursery in 1945).

So, with his wife, he attended the Philadelphia flower show where they purchased one plant—an African violet.

The Capriottis attended other shows and soon joined the Philadelphia society in Chestnut Hill where they became active members.

Says Mrs. Capriotti:

"Every plant that we purchased he took apart right away because you get new plants out of the leaves. The poor plants, we'd just about get them home and he'd have them all apart. We had trays of African violet leaves all over the living room"

The living room soon became inadequate for the hobby, so, Capriotti and a relative built a greenhouse for his plants:

"One Sunday, when the greenhouse was com-



The propagator: Blair Capriotti of Bristol, PA founder of AVS of Lower Bucks County.

plete we all walked out with those little trays and so proudly put them in the greenhouse. There were no plants or anything. He'd done away with the plants. They were all future plants."

This father of five must have a knack for growing things:

The following year, with no knowledge of how to enter, he took 32 plants to the Philadelphia show and came home with 28 ribbons, nine of them blue.

As Capriotti's interest in Saintpaulia (the botanical name for African violets) increased, so did his desire for an organization closer to home.

Early in 1974, the Bucks County Courier Times ran a photograph of Capriotti with a caption asking other interested violet lovers to contact him about forming a local club.

The response was so favorable that on May 12,



As Mr. Capriotti's violets flourished so did his desire for organization.

1974, the first meeting was held — in Capriotti's backyard.

One month later, the new club became an affiliate of the African Violet Society of America. And, a regular meeting place — the YMCA — was established.

Today, the organization boasts 49 members ranging from teenagers to senior citizens.

As a matter of fact, senior citizens make up about 40 per cent of the group's membership.

Mary Maes, a charter member, thoroughly enjoys her hobby.

Says Mary: "Oh you should see what I did to my plant. I tell everybody come and see my pregnant plant."

Mary is the first member of the group to attempt to hybridize a plant. And, although she'll have to wait several months to see the full fruits of her labor, she feels confident she is succeeding.

Asked if she is a natural with plants, Mary replied:

"Oh, I don't know if you'd call it a green thumb, I can kill a plant, believe me."

Mr. and Mrs. Hank Snowden of Trenton are a couple of proud senior citizens belonging to the

Lower Bucks club.

Said Mrs. Snowden:

"I've been raising violets for years and I never knew that they had these (societies) until the summer when this group was organized. I've learned a lot about violets since then.

"Hank is just a booster for me. He followed me around while he was courting me, and he followed me to a meeting. I said don't you want to become a member? So, he became a member last fall."

Not to be outshone by the older generation, teenager Lynn Pulis of Yardley is the group's youngest member.

The Pennsbury high school senior was the first local member to enter African violets in a show. She entered three plants in a Trenton show and



Youngest grower: Lynn Pulis of Yardley, PA.

walked off with three ribbons:

A second place, a third place, and an honorable mention.

How did she become interested in violets?

"I started when I was 10 years old," replied Lynn. "My dad grows plants and he got me started on just growing plants. Then, when I was about 14 or 15, I got an African violet. That's when it all started. Now I have 26 African violets."

Lynn, who also plays the guitar thinks nothing of the years between her and so many of her fellow violet lovers.

"In this club" she said, "there is no such thing as a generation gap."

And so it appears the African Violet Society of Lower Bucks County is here to stay. Its members not only share the fun of learning about their plants, they also enjoy the pleasures of friendship, sharing, socializing and humanizing.

The club members exhibit and sell their plants at activities such as bazaars and the Middletown Grange Fair, but they also enjoy sharing them with others.

The patients of Neshaminy Manor Home will vouch for that. Recently, they were visited by six members of the violet society who distributed 28 of their plants throughout the home.

Blair Capriotti seemed to sum up the pure pleasure of the hobby when he said:

"I enjoy growing them and I enjoy showing them, but I love to give them to people and see the pleasure they get from these little plants."



YEARBOOKS—The display of AVSA Affiliates' yearbooks at the annual convention/show caused much comment and conventiongoers viewed the many books on display with much interest. (Photo by Frank Burton)



THEY'RE WINNERS — Mrs. DoDe Whittaker (right) was winner of the AVS Best Collection with 'Top Dollar', 'Poodle Top' and 'Wild Flame' and Bob Green (left) won the AVSA 2nd Best Collection with 'Azure Trinket', 'Pink Trinket' and 'Little Miss Texas' at the Brevard AVS show in Melbourne, FL. Mrs. Whittaker's 'Top Dollar' was judged Best of Show and her 'E. Cleopatra' won Best Gesneriad Award. In lower photo is shown Mrs. Claudia Pitrowski's "Blue Sprite", which received the President's Award and Best Miniature trophy.



A VID:

African Violet Inter-State Delivery

Cheryl Koch
4 Glenside Drive
Pelham, NH 03076

In October '76 my grandmother died, and wanting to send something extra special to my grandfather at this time, I immediately thought of my beautiful African violets. But with my living in New Hampshire and my grandfather in California, there would be a problem getting my violet to him. I also did not want to use FTD or another florist because their violets are so often not the beautiful specimens that my friends and I try to grow.

So I decided to check my AVSA magazine for a club in or near San Diego where my grandfather lives. I located one in San Diego, and a Mrs. Frances King was listed as the president. I called Information for her number, but alas, King is a common name and not having her husband's name, the operator could not help me. There was also a San Diego County Club listed, with Mrs. Dorothy Smith as president. I was sure my luck would be equally bad in locating her number with a name like Smith.

So my first request is to urge everyone when they renew their membership to use their husband's name in the address. This would also make it so much easier to locate people when we are travelling. Instead of listing your name, for example, as Mrs. Mary Brown, list it as Mrs. Richard Brown (Mary). Please everybody - help with this.

So my husband and I began to wrack our brains for someone near to San Diego who could help us with our problem. I remembered a lady that I had met at a convention who lived near Los Angeles and phoned her. However, after calling her numerous times, I was unable to reach her.

Can you imagine how wonderful this lonely man would have felt to have a perfect stranger walk in with a gorgeous plant for him from his granddaughter 3,000 miles away, and sit and talk with him about the care of violets! I think that this could make anyone feel really special.

But there is an easier way to have a plant delivered to a loved one. I would like to organize a delivery system for violets throughout the United States. With your help and interest, it could be so

simple. I would like to have anyone interested in delivering plants in your area of the country to write to me. This list could involve quite a few names, too many to list in the magazine. I would be glad to organize the list and send it to any of you who are interested in using it. There would have to be a charge to cover mailing and printing, but that will be determined later after we see how much interest this article generates. With this list it would be so easy to locate a delivery person in the area needed.

Also, all of you African Violet clubs, it would be so wonderful if you would be willing to help with this endeavor. With members and clubs all over the country, and this list of people willing to make deliveries in your possession, simply locate the state you need and the city (or one in the area with the help of your travel atlas), call the delivery person (or write) in that area with the name, address, and phone number where the plant will be delivered, send off a check to the delivery person (if a plant is to be purchased, or the deliverer wishes to sell you one of his or hers, or one is to be contributed from an AV club), and your plant is on the way.

The only cost involved would be a long distance call or the price of a stamp for your letter, plus the price of the plant. This would not equal more than \$10.00 in most instances, and would be considerably cheaper than the \$15-\$20 we spend on a florist's cut flower arrangement.

This would also be a good way to encourage new members for our local and national clubs, as well as a way for the clubs to make some extra money, or individuals to earn money for their convention trips.

This need not be used only for funerals. In fact, funerals are probably the rarity. I know people would love receiving a beautiful blooming violet for a christening, wedding, anniversary, birthday, and so many more occasions.

So all of you who are interested in my A.V.I.D. system, I hope you will write to me with your name, address, and phone number, and we'll try to get A.V.I.D. moving around the country.

CLINIC HELD IN FORT WORTH

Among events being held in Texas to further the knowledge of African violets was a clinic for African violet problems sponsored by the Violet Harmony Club of Fort Worth, TX. It was held at the Botanic Garden Center and was attended by 50 persons. The session opened with a discussion of general rules for growing good violets and then the ailing plants that had been brought to the clinic were diagnosed and treated individually. Various club members explained and demonstrated correct methods of potting, correcting a "long neck", problems brought on by overwatering, etc. Since this first venture was so successful the club hopes to be able to repeat this clinic.

BUY WITH CAUTION

When you go on a "buying spree" for African violets, don't let the seller oversell. If you do not have space for large-growing plants, don't buy because of huge blossoms, beautiful foliage, and the fact it's larger than any in your collection. Don't be a compulsive buyer. Look around, seek out the plants that catch your eye, then study them with your own desires and growing conditions in mind.

COMMERCIALS

(Continued from page 65)

ruffled foliage. It is quite unusual and another potential award winner to add to their many predecessors.

And so, just as this year's blue ribbon plants in the Amateur show were yesterday's innovations, so tomorrow these new introductions will leave their high place of honor and descend to the common place of the hobbyist. Thus, once again, making room for the new, the unusual and the improved in the years to come. May it always be so!

(ED. NOTE: Sorry, we have no pictures of the Commercials, but all the black and white photos came out too dark).

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Cream Puff — Creamy semi-double stars in constant bloom over dark compact plant.

Eclair — Combinations of pink and white large double stars; a variable color "surprise package".

GRANGER:

Millie Blair — Fluffy light blue doubles with fringed white edges and ruffled flat-growing foliage.

Dainty Doll — Heavily fringed white semi-doubles with light blue streaked centers, ruffled foliage.

LYON:

Pink N' Ink — Best new Introduction 77 Convention — deep pink blossoms freckled with purple ink.

Sam — Large double stars in a luscious salmon shade with wavy white edges — dark tailored foliage.

REED:

Pick-A-Dilly — Lovely fluted blue doubles over variegated pink and cream tailored foliage.

Pink Surprise — Double pink or pink and white fluted blooms over dark shiny red-backed wavy foliage.

SWIFT:

French Lilac — gorgeous frilled lavender and wine doubles, quilted ruffled foliage.

Southland Grape — clusters of frilly grape doubles over wavy dark foliage.

REV. BLADES:

Love — Azure blue singles above gorgeous dark ruffled foliage variegated with pink and cream.

Hope — light purple flowers with dark crested petals and white edges, unusual shiny pointed variegated foliage.

Song — White-edged double blue flowers, dark wavy variegated foliage.

Peace — frilly fuchsia edge surrounds each white blossom, wavy variegated foliage.

UTZ:

Jackpot — huge double tri-color magenta blooms with darker borders and chartreuse edges, dark sturdy foliage.

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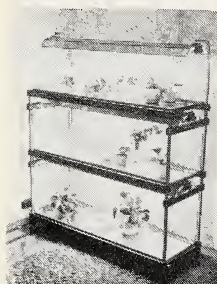
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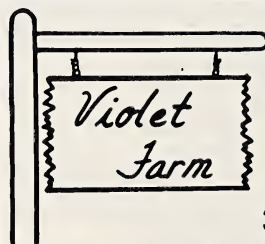
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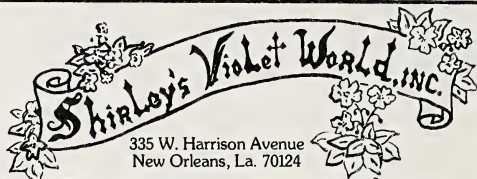
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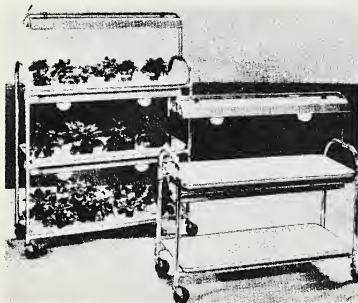
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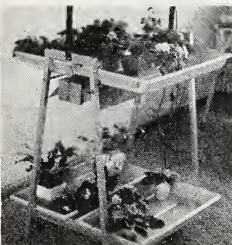


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3 lb. bag Carbamate Fermate, Ferbam 6.30
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There is no more Blue Whale Soil Builder

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Cindy Miller Bodiford

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Sorry: No Retail Shipping. All retail sales made at greenhouses only. Our WHOLESALE list available to Dealers and Clubs upon identification and a self addressed stamped long envelope.

"Millie Blair" reg.

Those who have seen the plant named for her have said it will be another of our finer introductions. It is a Medium Blue full double with a broader white edge than usual on very free growing dark green foliage. An abundance of Flowers held well above the foliage. This is a free growing easily controlled plant and will grow well for anyone.

"Millie Blair" available to the trade wholesale now.

Regarding the winter of 76 and 77; it has finally caught up with us in that we are about three months late on our fall 1977 new variety releases. This we regret but it is one of those things we have no control over. Consequently, there will be no Fall '77 price list. We do however have several cultivars that will be ready approximately January 1st, 1978, namely —

**Dubonette Deb
Dainty Doll
Atlantis**

**Rose Triumph
Charmaine
Blue Sparkler**

We will also offer a small amount of some of the better miniatures from other hybridizers. Remember that UPS shipping terminates for us about November 1st. Air freight shipments continue on a year round basis, weather permitting.

If it's constant winners you want, check the HONOR ROLL OF AFRICAN VIOLETS in June '77 issue. Five out of ten years our plants were leaders on the best varieties list. We will continue to maintain this level of easy performing Violets for you.

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PHONE 216-239-2349

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F R I C A N



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SPECIAL FOR FALL

JEALOUS PINK (Baker) — Very frilly medium pink with good green edge. The best we've ever seen. Dark wavy foliage. Show plant.

SNOWFIRE (Baker) — Huge white semi-double star marked and splotted with red. Med. green tailored foliage. Good bloomer.

PARSON'S BLUES (Blades) — Large blue-purple double with geneva edge. Tailored Tommie Lou foliage.

PARSON'S CARE (Blades) — Medium pink semi-double. Tailored Tommie Lou foliage, blooms in bunches.

PARSON'S CHEER (Blades) — Two-toned orchid and violet double on tailored Tommie Lou foliage. Pretty.

PARSON'S MASTERPIECE (Blades) — Large velvet purple double on nicely variegated Tommie Lou foliage. A definite improvement on Top Dollar.

FRENCH LILAC (Swift) — Very frilly lavender and wine double. Serrated, medium green foliage. Show plant.

CHERISHED HOPE (Reed) — 2½" Creamy white double. Glossy medium green foliage. Grows symmetrically.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN (Reed) — Large blue-purple double on tailored Tommie Lou foliage.

DIXIE DANDY (Reed) — Large medium pink double, sometimes pink and white. Third best commercial introduction in 1976.

PICK-A-DILLY (Reed) — Fringed blue double on tailored Tommie Lou foliage.

SNOWBALL SPECIAL (Reed) — 2½" pure white double star. Medium green tailored foliage.

THRILLER DILLER (Reed) — Fringed wine double with green edge. Dark green tailored foliage.

SANDRA (Utz) — Large pink double star with fuchsia border and generous white edge. Medium green tailored foliage.

SUGAR BLUES (Fredette) — Deep blue double with white edge on tailored Tommie Lou foliage.

VELVET RIBBONS (Fredette) — Frilled light pink star, bordered with fuchsia, thin white edge. Medium green quilted foliage.

WINTER GRAPE (Fredette) — Wavy mauve and purple double on wavy Tommie Lou foliage.

SHIPPING: Starter plants are now available for \$2.50 postpaid until Nov. 1, 1977. Add 15¢ per plant for FIRST CLASS POSTAGE, which is recommended. Four plant minimum order. For our complete list of 600 varieties send 25¢.

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Tray and
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We would like to add to our list of champions Ilene Jorgensen, Salt Lake City, Utah who won the QUEEN of SHOW with RICHTER'S HIGHLAND BEAU, GOLD ROSETTE with MARTA, EMPEROR and RUFFLED RED and SWEEPSTAKES.

Catherine and Ilene have given full credit to GREEN GOLD'S SOILWASH. (*You and I know that they must be doing something right also*)

To answer the many many requests for larger sizes we are now shipping quarts, \$7.50 pre-paid east of Miss. and please add \$1.00 west of Miss. The gallon size is \$24.50 plus \$3.00 shipping charges.

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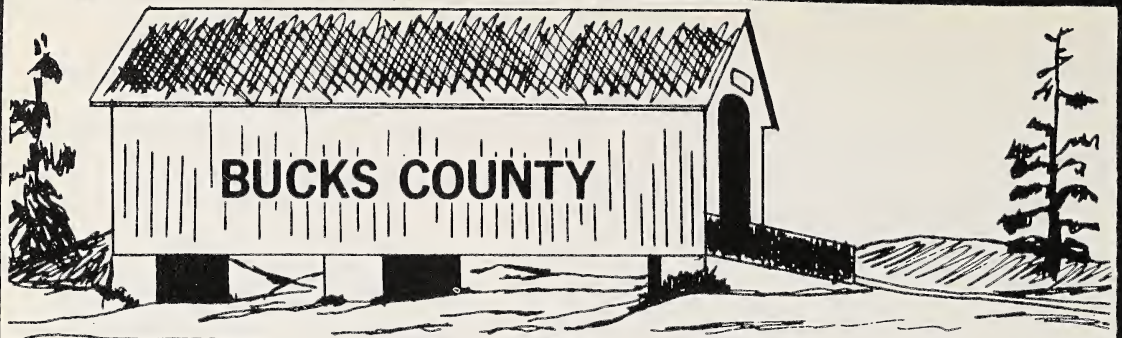
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Hybrid African Violet Seeds

We try our best to make sure that all of our seed is tested, but in the Spring of this year we mistakenly mailed out, and sold at the Convention show in St. Louis, some seeds which turned out to be bad germinators. We were able to replace mail order seeds, but we do not have records of people who bought seeds at the show. So if you or someone you know got bad seeds at the show, please contact me for replacement.

To order seeds now, please consult the June issue of this magazine for selections, or write to the address below for our list. (Please include self-addressed-stamped envelope) You could also order simply by telling us what kind (color, size, etc.) of violets you want to raise. Price: \$4.00 per packet for 1 — 3 packets; \$3.00 per packet for 4 — 6 packets; \$1.50 per packet when purchasing 7 or more. Complete instructions provided.

Ronn Nadeau
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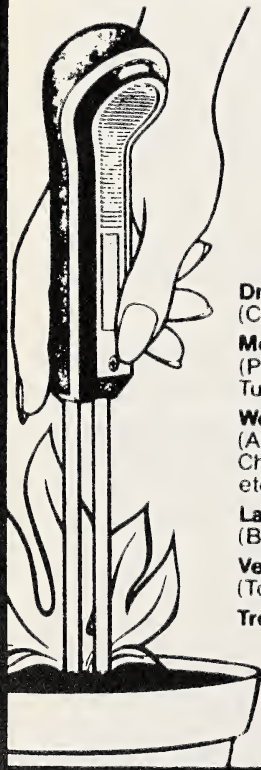
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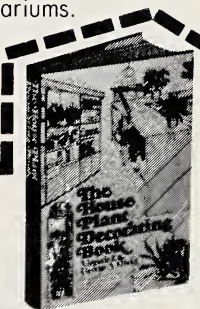
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Index.

243 pages.

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8-oz.	Liquid Sturdy Brand 0-15-14 mix with fish fertilizer	2.98
16-oz.	Liquid Alaska Fish 5-1-1	2.25
8-oz.	Kelthane (miticide)	2.25
1-oz.	Carbonmate (Fermate)50
6-qts.	Perlite (coarse)70
4-qts.	Verlite no. 3 (crumb type)70
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2-lbs.	Superphosphate	1.00
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6"	Hanging Basket-White with saucer ea.	.90
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African Violet

MAGAZINE

Volume 30

Number 5

November, 1977



STRICTLY BUSINESS — YOUR BUSINESS

A TABLE OF INFORMATION TO USE IN CONDUCTING YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR SOCIETY TO INSURE GOOD SERVICE

ALWAYS GIVE YOUR NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE ITEM
SEND EACH ITEM TO THE CORRECT PERSON

AFFILIATE 'APPENINGS: Send to Editor.

AFFILIATES: See list in Nov. issue. For information on show awards, how to start a chapter of questions on new or renewal membership, write Mrs. Wayne W. Schroeder, 1739 N. 74th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635. Send officer information sheet received with charter to Mrs. Schroeder by July 1.

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BYLAWS: See September issue.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: Albert Buell, Buell's Greenhouses, Box 218, Eastford, CT 06242

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS: See list in November issue.

COMMERCIAL SALES AND EXHIBITS: Jimmy Watson, 1361 Madison Avenue, Apt. 2-AA, New York NY 10028

CONVENTION:

AWARDS: See January issue. Send suggestions or contributions for convention awards to Mrs. Richard A. Chase, 482 Rutherford Ave., Redwood City, CA 94061 by Sept. 1.

PROGRAM: See March issue. Send special requests for workshop programs; suggest names of interesting speakers to Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson, R. R. 1, Box 70, Tavares, FL 32778

SCHEDULE: See January issue.

TIME AND PLACE: If interested in sponsoring a convention in your area, contact Mrs. H. Harold Baker, 2182 Stanford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

CULTURE FOLDERS, APPLICATIONS AND BROCHURES: Free from AVSA office. Please state quantity required, use for show, commercial sales-room or wherever memberships may be solicited. Membership application included.

CUMULATIVE INDEX: Order from AVSA office.

EDITOR: Mrs. Grace Foote, 211 Allien Pl., Port Arthur, TX 77640

HONOR ROLL: See June issue.

JUDGES: See November issue Judges and Teachers list.

JUDGING SCHOOL: For information on holding a school or to become a qualified judge, write to Mrs. James B. Carey, 3900 Garden Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918

LIBRARY: See June issue for lists of slide programs and packets available from AVSA Library. Order from AVSA office. If you have ideas for a library program or slides to donate for library, write Harvey Stone, 51 Peach Highlands, Marblehead, MA 01945

LIFE MEMBERS: See June issue for list.

MAGAZINE:

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ARTICLES: Send to Editor.

DEADLINE DATES: June issue, Mar. 1; Sept. issue

June 1; Nov. issue, Aug. 1; Jan. issue, Oct. 1; Mar. issue, Dec. 1.

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SUPPLEMENT: Send any correction and/or description of new cultivar with hybridizer's name to Plant Registration Chairman.

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MINIATURE AND SEMIMINIATURE LIST: \$2 to Mrs. Sidney Bogin, 39 Boyd St., Long Beach, NY 11561

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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES: See June issue.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: AVSA Secretary, Mrs. H. N. Hansen, 708 Wyndale Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Mrs. Thomas J. Edmundson, 4605 NW 45th St., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319 is available to answer parliamentary questions from affiliates. (Stamped self-addressed envelope must be enclosed for reply.)

PLANT REGISTRATION: Mrs. Fred Tretter, 4988 Schollmeyer Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109

QUESTION BOX: Anne Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, 19006

RESEARCH: Send suggested subjects for scientific research or names of interested qualified potential research personnel to Frank Tinari, 2325 Valley Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

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OUR COVER PAGE

'Sweet Violet' was introduced by Swift's African Violets of Dallas as a new introduction at the 1977 AVSA Convention/Show in St. Louis, MO. With its semidouble blossoms on plain quilted foliage, 'Sweet Violet' is both unusual and beautiful and received the Helen Van Zele Award for the third best introduction. (Photo by Frank Burton)

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EACH OF YOU



It seems pretty ridiculous to be sending this greeting at a time when we have been sweltering under a merciless sun the past few weeks, with the thermometer stuck in the mid-to-upper 90's range for 12 straight days. After suffering through "The Winter of '77", why must Mother Nature wallop us with "The Summer of '77"?

However, as they say — the show must go on! During the early months of winter, many Affiliates will be staging shows. The holidays are a natural for the selection of exciting themes and, hopefully, with cooler weather, our plants have pulled out of the summer doldrums. Mildred Schroeder, our Affiliate Chairman, is doing a great job keeping abreast of all show dates, so there will be no disappointments in receiving award ribbons on time, etc. But you have a responsibility, also. Score sheets should be promptly returned to her in order to complete the records. In the event the Gold and Purple Rosettes are not awarded, please see that they are returned immediately.

With the addition of another clerk on our Knoxville office staff, we hope our Library problems will be solved. By keeping a close check on all programs before mailing to see that the slides are in proper rotation, mutilated commentary sheets replaced with fresh copies, etc., we hope disappointments and complaints will be eliminated. Here, too, you have a responsibility. If you fail to return a program immediately after your club meeting — if you fail to wrap the package securely and send it by first class mail, then you can just bet our best efforts in your behalf are going to hit a snag.

It's not too early to begin making plans to attend the Austin convention next April. You know how they do things in Texas! You can't imagine how excited I am about visiting that big, wonderful State of Texas at last. I've covered our country from corner to corner many times, but somehow never made it to Texas, other than crossing its extreme western corner one year, driving my granddaughter to Arizona State University in Phoenix. So, it's all going to be new and exciting for me and I can hardly wait.

This is also an opportune time to remember some special friend with a gift subscription to AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE. An entire year's pleasure for just \$6.00. How can you beat it?

Sincerely,

Melva



1977 BEST VARIETIES



Mrs. M. G. Gonzales
200 Doris Ave.
San Jose, CA 95127

This list was compiled from 1679 individual lists. Thank you to each member who sent us a list.

No. of votes rec'd.	Variety	Reg. No.	Hybridizer
636	Miriam Steel	2276	(Granger)
455	Tommie Lou	1744	(Oden)
408	Garnet Elf	2339	(Granger)
371	Tina	2680	(Maas)
331	Nancy Reagan	2167	(Rienhardt)
325	Rhapsodie Mars		(Holtkamp)
304	Happy Harold	2165	(Rienhardt)
290	Lullaby	1783	(Granger)
279	Ballet Lisa	2898	(Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
244	Firebird	2018	(Granger)
238	Triple Threat	1989	(Lyon)
234	Granger's Serenity	2578	(Granger)
234	Rhapsodie Gigi		(Holtkamp)
222	Lilian Jarrett	1060	(Tinari)
220	Delft Imperial	1326	(Granger)
208	Top Dollar	2168	(Rienhardt)
206	Ballet Marta	2899	(Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
204	Granger's Fashionaire	2223	(Granger)
202	Mary D	2675	(Maas)
193	Rhapsodie Elfriede		(Holtkamp)
182	Starshine	2349	(Granger)
171	Granger's Peach Frost	2216	(Granger)
166	Helene	2885	(Lyon)
164	Spring Deb	2348	(Granger)
156	Butterfly White	1983	(Lyon)
154	Granger's Eternal Snow	2573	(Granger)
149	Coral Caper	2627	(Lyon)
146	Double Black Cherry	1178	(Omaha AVC)
145	Like Wow	2329	(Lyon)
144	Christi Love	2884	(Lyon)
137	Becky	2669	(Maas)
130	Pixie Blue	2598	(Lyon)
129	Chanticleer	1386	(Granger)
128	Faith	2707	(Granger)
124	Brigadoon	1014	(Granger)
120	Vern's Delight	2271	(V. Lorenzen)
118	Rhapsodie Claudia		(Holtkamp)
118	Softique	1957	(Richter)
118	Strawberry Shortcake	1509	(Taylor)
114	Granger's Pink Swan	2577	(Granger)
113	Poodle Top	2053	(Tinari)
112	White Madonna	670	(Granger)
111	Mrs. Greg	2361	(V. Lorenzen)
110	Whirlaway	2210	(Lyon)
109	Edith V. Peterson	2561	(Constantinov)
107	Dora Baker	2084	(V. Lorenzen)
106	Midget Bon Bon	2282	(Champion)
105	Emperor	1507	(Taylor)
104	Regina	2716	(Granger)
101	Cordelia	2466	(Lyon)
101	Granger's Carefree	2221	(Granger)
100	After Dark	2117	(Richter)
100	Lisa		(Lyon)
100	The King	2668	(Maas)
99	Ann Slocomb	1907	(Lanigan)
97	Crimson Frost	2706	(Granger)
95	Blue Reverie	2013	(Granger)
95	Granger's Musetta	2575	(Granger)
94	Lavender Tempest	2709	(Granger)
94	Rhapsodie Gisela		(Holtkamp)
92	Christmas Holly		(Reed)
92	Like wow Sport		(Lyon)
91	Rhapsodie Neptune		(Holtkamp)
90	Richter's Wedgewood	1140	(Richter)
88	Creekside Moonbeams		(Bea Mills)
88	Granger's Arctic Mist	2566	(Granger)
88	Pocono Mountain		(De Sandis)
88	Ruffled Red	2679	(Maas)
87	Richter's Step Up	2458	(Richter)
86	Wild Country	2729	(Lyon)
84	Granger's Pinks a Poppin	2576	(Granger)
84	The Parson's Wife	2317	(Rev. Blades)
83	Sweet Pixie	2195	(Swifts)
81	Granger's Swiss Ballet	2579	(Granger)
79	Corpus Christi	3075	(Utz)
79	Granger's Peppermint	2227	(Granger)
78	Pixie Trails		(Lyon)
77	Blue Boy	41	(Armcast & Royston)
77	Duet		(Richter)
77	Lavender Delight	2342	(Granger)
76	Blue Storm	2464	(Lyon)
76	Candy Lips	1461	(Lyon)
74	Flamingo	2670	(Maas)
74	Mark	3007	(Maas)
74	Pink Viceroy	2714	(Granger)
71	Wisteria	2056	(Tinari)

- 67 Granger's Blue Fashionaire 2568 (Granger)
- 67 Nona Weber 1750 (Rose Knoll Gardens)
- 67 Orion 2069 (Tonkdale)
- 66 Frankie 2671 (Maas)
- 64 Granger's Wildfire 2876 (Granger)
- 64 Purple Crest (Granger)
- 64 Window Blue 1710 (Reed)
- 63 Sweet Mary 2489 (V. Lorenzen)
- 61 Gotcha 2205 (Lyon)
- 61 Jingle Bells (Richter)
- 60 Ballet Anna 2890 (Geo. J. Ball Inc.)
- 60 Bloomin' Fool 1473 (Richter)
- 60 Granger Garden's Snow Ballet 1219 (Granger)
- 60 Granger's Festival 2224 (Granger)
- 60 Jason 3004 (Maas)
- 60 Tipt (Richter)
- 59 Coral Cascade 2463 (Lyon)
- 59 Violet Trails 2468 (Lyon)
- 57 Granger Garden's Shag 1087 (Granger)
- 57 Richter's Charm Song 1137 (Richter)
- 56 Dancing Doll 2204 (Lyon)
- 56 Mary C 2674 (Maas)
- 56 Sailor's Dream (Kolb)
- 55 Granger's Blue Flair 2569 (Granger)
- 55 Kathleen 1612 (Volkman)
- 55 Red Flame (Granger)
- 54 Coral Reef 1692 (Tinari)
- 54 Floral Fantasy 1986 (Lyon)
- 54 Granger's Bandmaster 2567 (Granger)
- 54 Granger's Blue Tempest 2571 (Granger)
- 54 Plain & Fancy 2756 (Champion)
- 54 White Pride 872 (Ulery)
- 53 Copper Tips (Granger)
- 51 Jennifer 2006 (Tinari)
- 51 Sea Foam 2024 (Granger)



ARTISTIC DESIGN—Mrs. Joyce Twitty is shown here with her artistic design which won the AVSA TRi-Color Award for best artistic design at the New Orleans (LA) AVS annual show. Theme of show was "Violets in an Oriental Mood".



IN TUCSON — "African Violet Magic" was the theme of the Tucson (AZ) AVS' 20th annual show at which the Tucson Magic Society assisted with 'technical advice'. Top photo shows Joseph (Pepé) Snyder, magic club president, and Mrs. Helen Kavanaugh, show chairman, holding the violet "Pepé", and lower photo the theme of the show. Winners were: Queen of Show, 'Lilac Time', Bess Fraser; 1st runner-up, 'R. Claudia', Carol Bray; 2nd runner-up, 'Jack Swift', Ethel Packer; sweepstakes, Norma Butler, Green Valley, AR; artistic sweepstakes, best interpretation of theme, Helen De Marinas; best gesneriad, Helen Kavanaugh; arrangements sweepstakes, tie between Mary Mulvena and Helen De Marinas.

WATERING

Most of our water contains chlorine, and if water is allowed to stand overnight the chlorine dissipates. Plants will respond better to water without chlorine. African violets like the water at room temperature. They do not like to be left standing in water, so empty those saucers.

Adaptation of Microculture Technology To *Saintpaulia* Improvement, Production

Dr. Brent H. McCown and Peter C. Bilkey

Department of Horticulture
University of Wisconsin, WI 53706

(ED. NOTE: This is the conclusion of a two-part article)

Although the application of micropropagation for the multiplication of African violets has been proven, the adaptation of the technique for commercial purposes has not been accomplished. Further research must involve the following:

1. Determination of the most rapid rate of multiplication. Although 20,000 plants per year from a single leaf is entirely feasible, the potential to increase this rate should be investigated so that growers will know the full potential of the technique.
2. Determination of the minimum time to flowering. A number of alternatives are available to move the plants from the micropropagation environment to the greenhouse environment. In addition, the growth of the plants can be stimulated in culture, but this usually means a reduction in the number of plants propagated from any single individual.
3. An analysis of the economics of the use of micropropagation. Realizing the added costs of micropropagation facilities and skilled labor, under what circumstances would such capital expenditures be an economic benefit? Such an analysis must consider not only the inputs into the program, but the potential for the market to absorb large numbers of plants.

This research program will take a minimum of two years to accomplish the above objectives. During the first year, detailed studies into the environment and media variables and their influence on the propagation rate and length of time to obtain a flowering plant will be investigated. During the second year, the methodology of incorporating this technique into current production programs, including associated economic considerations will be investigated. This phase must necessarily involve working directly with growers to determine their needs and problems.

A final product of this research will be a published document describing in detail the procedures involved and the advantages and disadvantages in adopting such a micropropagation program. Such information would also have application in the production of other gesneriad species. Since micropropagation is not a particu-

larly difficult or expensive undertaking, this information should be of value to both the small and large grower.

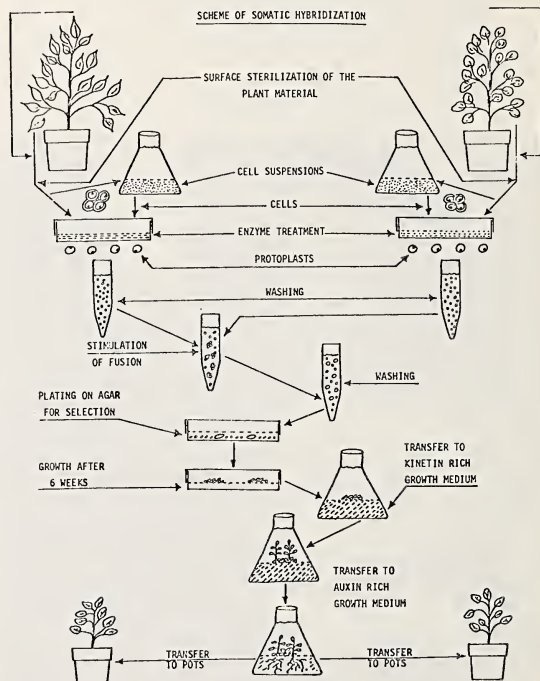
Genetic improvement research program.

As mentioned earlier, current techniques for incorporating genes from other genera into *Saintpaulia* are quite limited. The potential of utilizing asexual hybridization for this purpose should be investigated.

The general methodology of asexual hybridization is illustrated in Figure 1. Basically, the method

Figure 1

SCHEME OF SOMATIC HYBRIDIZATION



involved four stages:

1. Production and isolation of live protoplasts. Plant cells cannot be made to fuse when their cell walls are intact. Thus the first step in asexual hybridization is to isolate single cells and to remove their cell walls. Leaf, stem or flower tissue is first treated with enzymes

that dissolve the cementing agents that hold cells together in the plant. Once these free cells are obtained, the cells are treated with other enzymes that destroy the cell walls without killing the cell itself. Now the cell, without its cell wall and separated from adjoining cells, is called a protoplast and is capable of fusing with other cells.

2. Fusion. Protoplasts from the desired parental lines are brought together and treated so that fusion of individual cells is promoted. Thus the genetic material from diverse plants can be fused into a single cell and a "hybrid" is formed.
3. Isolation of the desired fusion. In a mixture of protoplasts, many different fusions can occur. Cells from the same plant can fuse with themselves as well as with cells from the other plant selection. Thus techniques have to be developed to select only those fusions that are between the desired cell lines. We are now currently developing such techniques, based primarily on color recognition.
4. Cell multiplication and growth of the total plant. The fused product now must be made to divide, forming a mass of cells. Eventually, conditions of the medium are changed to allow differentiation of the cells into shoots and roots. The plant is transferred to conventional growth conditions and can be studied further.

The specific requirement to allow each of these steps to occur differs with each plant. Thus considerable research is necessary to perfect the technique for any one plant species. The following objectives will be a part of this research program:

1. Determination of the specific requirements for asexual hybridization with the gesneri-

ads. The exact requirements to procure protoplasts and eventually plants from **Saintpaulia**, **Episcia**, and **Petrocosmea** will be determined.

2. Conduct a detailed genetic study of the resultant hybrids. Although plants may be obtained from fusion, the plant itself may be sterile or otherwise unsuitable for further breeding work. On the other hand, the hybrid may have a high potential for use in breeding programs to introduce new genes into **Saintpaulia** clones.

This research program will take a minimum of three years. The first year will be devoted to developing the mechanics of the techniques for these species of gesneriads. The second year will be used to generate the fused hybrids and to attempt to grow them into plants. The final year will be used to describe the resultant plant asexual hybrids.

Additional Comments

The University of Wisconsin is world-renowned for research in microculture techniques. Three eminent U. S. scientists in this field (F. Skoog, T. Murashige and A. Hildebrandt) are now located at U. W. or have received their training here. We are now cooperating with these scientists in other research programs, thus this unusual expertise is available for consultation.

The Department of Horticulture has recently developed a laboratory devoted to microculture of plants. Thus the facilities available to conduct this research are exceptional and do not have to be supported by industry funds.

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the U. W. has a policy to not charge small industry grants for such services as professional staff

BUDGET

	REQUESTED MONIES					
	Subproject	Subproject II				
	Micropropagation	Genetic Improvement				
	<u>Salaries and Wages</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
Investigators						
B. H. McCown						
Project Leader						
(15%)						
Peter Bilkey		2500	2500	2500	2500	2500
Research Asst.						
(¼ time)						
Extra labor		1000	500	500	1000	500
<u>Supplies</u>		1000	500	500	1000	500
<u>Travel, publication</u>		100	300			200
Annual Totals		<u>\$4600</u>	<u>\$3800</u>	<u>\$3500</u>	<u>\$4500</u>	<u>\$3700</u>
Subproject Totals		<u>\$8,400</u>	<u>\$11,700</u>			
Total Research Program		\$21,000				

salaries and facilities usage. Thus the funds granted for this research will be utilized directly in the program. Essentially, this "subsidy" more than doubles the initial value of such grants.

An additional benefit of such research located at an undergraduate/graduate institution like the University of Wisconsin is that the research allows for training of students. Most of these students will eventually work in the industry itself.

Finally, this research has ramifications well beyond the practical aspects emphasized here. For example, if an asexual hybrid could be produced that had benefit to man, it would be the first successful application of such a technique. More importantly, if the gesneriads prove to be highly adaptable to these techniques, they will form a highly important research tool for further basic investigations into the processes of plant development.

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YOU'RE INVITED

You're invited to attend a symposium on "Propagation of Higher Plants Through Tissue Culture" on the University of Tennessee campus, Knoxville, April 16-19. The symposium is designed to bring together researchers and people who are using tissue culture commercially for propagation or who are interested in commercial propagation for mass culture. A few papers concerning tissue culture propagation of the Gesneriaceae will be presented by poster session. For registration forms and information write: Dr. Karen W. Hughes, Department of Botany, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916.

Registration materials will be sent out in November.

HANGING BASKETS

There is at this time no place in the AVSA show schedule for hanging baskets and unless a change in the schedule is made they can not be entered in competition.

The recommended method of growing in a hanging basket is to drill or burn 3 holes in the top of a standard African violet pot through which wire or chain can be attached and the plant then potted and hung. If at any time you wish to enter the plant into competition you can carefully remove the wire and enter according to AVSA schedule.

Question Box

By Anne Tinari, Tinari Greenhouses
2325 Valley Road, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006



November ushers in the holiday season,
Christmas lights burn clear and bright.
Man who searches for a reason,
Finds sharing plants bring sheer delight.

Q. Dear Anne: How often can one remove lower outer leaves on a promising show plant without damage to the plant? Can show plant quality be maintained?

A. This is determined by follow-up care after leaf removal. When removing leaves it is wise to remove the whole petiole right to the center of the plant, thus avoiding any fungus disease that can attach itself to plant tissue and cause problems. If the plant gets stalky and the crown is too far up in the pot and out of proper proportion, then repot and place crown down by removing soil from the bottom, try not to disturb the root system and place plant in center covering up the stalk portion with fresh soil which should come up to the first set of leaves. Then proceed with the proper constant care that a show plant must have.

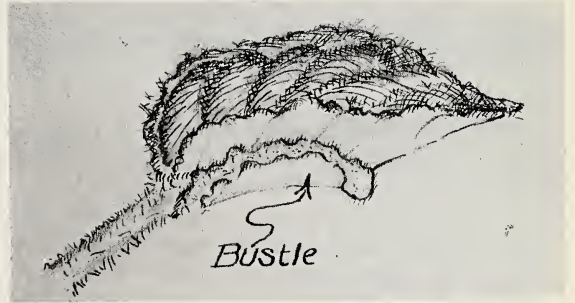
Q. how much time a day is required for violets under lights? How far away should the lights be from the plants? (When measuring, should you measure from the top of the plant or the bottom of the pot?) And last, but not least, at what temperature are violets most comfortable?

A. Violets need 14 to 16 hours of artificial light per day for good growing. Lights should be approximately 10 to 12 inches from the top of the plant. Violets prefer a normal house temperature which ranges usually about 68 to 70 degrees.

Q. Some of the leaves on my violets have thick bustle-type leaves, some have pocket-like growth on the back of the leaf. Some stems turn over so the pocket is on the top of the leaf, at times they appear weird looking as they cross over one another. I am tempted to send you a picture. Have you ever seen anything like it?

A. Back in 1961 in an AVSA magazine there was an interesting article on this very same type of leaf once called a "bustle-back leaf". The article goes on to relate how the name was first given to

this odd formation of leaves by a Mrs. Hotchkiss of Peoria, Ill. Her comments were, that it always came true but, if grown in too warm an



atmosphere the bustle gradually disappeared, but would return more prominently when placed in a cooler area.

I have seen plants of this formation occasionally in the greenhouses but they are far too whimsical and unstable to be propagated commercially. Also it would be almost impossible to ship plants of this leaf-type growth throughout the country.

Q. Dear Anne: At our recent African violet show a visitor asked a question that I hadn't thought about and none of our club's "experts" knew the answer either. We were asked if African violet leaves could be harmful if a child were to chew them, as are such plants as oleander, castor bean, rhubarb leaves and etc. I told her I had heard of parakeets and mice enjoying violet leaves without harm, but that this did not necessarily mean that a child could be so lucky. Could you answer this?

A. Your question is one which has been asked of me many times. Frankly (though I do not think the African violet leaf to be poisonous) I certainly would discourage anyone from chewing on the foliage. And definitely warn parents to prevent young children from doing so. Our African violets today are subject to all types of pesticides, fungicides and systemics, people so casually forget about. Any of these can be harmful to the digestive and nervous system of a young child and should be avoided.

The standard rule for any flower, foliage or

unknown material that a child should ingest is to immediately call one's local poison control center. All young mothers should have this necessary number at their fingertips.

Recently I received a letter, reprimanding me on this subject. It seems a well-known magazine article (recently published) told of cooking violets and gave very valid recipes that sounded tempting indeed. Knowing my frank opinion on this subject a member wrote to me sending the recipes along. What the individual neglected to note was that the author was referring to the common outdoor violet, which is not a gesneriad, but a member of the viola family and grown outdoors where pesticides are not generally used. Plants are grown under sunlight and rain conditions, living in an entirely different environment than our African violet beauties, which demand constant protection with insecticides from pests and diseases.

I would also discourage birds or pets chewing on plants that have been treated in any way. I really don't mean to get on my soapbox, but so many letters have referred to this subject lately. Thus I thank you for asking the question.

Q. Why does my 'Sky' Trailer grow to one side? Is this normal?

A. 'Sky Trailer' can grow in the manner you describe, turn plant occasionally and give it sufficient light and it will produce more even growth. I have seen them grown in baskets, getting very large and lovely, giving forth enough runners or side shoots to cover a hanging pot gracefully.

Q. In your book **"Our African Violet Heritage"** you refer to some trailers I have not been able to acquire. I particularly wish to acquire the cultivar 'Star Trailer', which you claimed to have introduced in 1955 at the St. Louis Convention. You also speak of a 'Snow Trailer' and 'Wild Girl' as trailer types. Why are these not available today?

A. When we introduced the first trailers in 1955, hanging plants were not popular. The double pinks, which were very new, were "the" violet of the moment. Trailers were simply not popular. Thus we grew them, those first six introductions, for about five years and then dropped them off our list for lack of interest among the violet public. Somehow we held on to stock of some of them, but the 'Star Trailer', which resembled the cultivar 'Star Gazer', in flower form and color, being a delicate blue and white, somehow got lost. I have not been able to locate it. 'Snow Trailer' and 'Wild Girl' were among those we discontinued.

Q. Dear Anne: I find lower leaves on my trailing violets getting limp and curled. Some turn dark

and mushy and some of the foliage dries up. Is this normal for trailing African violets?

A. No, trailing African violets can be most attractive and are generally good strong growing types. They are known to prefer good strong light. They should be fed with a diluted plant food often. They should be pruned regularly to keep them to suitable growth size. Lower outer leaves that lose strength and vigor should be removed in keeping with their graceful form. Keep pots in good proportion to size of your plant. Remove unnecessary foliage. This will also help your plant to bloom more profusely.

Q. I wick my violets and when I returned from summer vacation after three weeks, I found a white filmy scum on top of the water. It doesn't seem to affect the plants, but is probably not good for them either. What can I do to stop this growth?

A. It is no doubt a form of mold or fungus spores and may not even be harmful. However, one should try to avoid it. I find most people who use the wick pot method incorporate horticulture charcoal as one of the ingredients in the soil to keep it sweet and well aerated. You may find using a bit of charcoal in the reservoir of your wick-fed pots beneficial to keep the water from acquiring fungus growth.

Q. So much is said about how to raise the humidity around African violets, but nothing about how to lower it. I have been having a lot of problems which crown rot which I should be able to remedy. Is there a trick to lowering humidity without the expense of a dehumidifier?

A. To remove moisture from the air a dehumidifier is almost mandatory. Fans can help to circulate the air, but cannot remove moisture from the air as does a dehumidifier. Maintaining the room temperature as low as possible may help. A sheer curtain, awning or even a bamboo curtain can cut off extreme light and lower the overall temperature in a room. A cool room, too, can hold an excess amount of moisture, much would depend on the environment. Do not keep vermiculite in trays too wet, it may be wise to water plants individually, using only amount needed to avoid excess moisture accumulation.

Q. I notice my plant of 'Baby Dear', a double white miniature, has several crowns. Should I separate it?

A. Examine your plant carefully and if it is not growing all on one stem or crown, then you can very carefully separate it and put each section into a small pot.

Q. Dear Anne: Is there one general safe pesticide I can use for the control of most African violet pests?

A. Not really. First correctly identify the pest. A good general guide for African violets most common pests is a pest chart published in the AVSA magazine by Mrs. Ethel Champion, Volume 25, No. 4 page 30 and Volume 25, No. 5 page 36. Also the book by Helen Van Pelt Wilson, "African Violet Book," contains excellent pest charts.

Q. Can you give me any information on Orthene insect spray. Is it safe to use on African violets?

A. The only specific manufacturer's literature I have been able to acquire is that Orthene is an organic phosphate tested and labeled for gypsy moth and other trees. It is hoped a full label which will include many other insect uses will be specified in the future. It is classified as of low toxicity and one of the less hazardous pesticides. It should not be used without proper recommendation as to dilution, etc.

Q. I planted three different color leaves together in one pot to try and graft them. To my surprise one is already flowering with the mother leaf still on. Do you think I should remove the mother leaf so the strength could go to the small leaves?

A. My dear, planting leaves of different cultivars in one pot is not grafting by any stretch of the imagination. On grafting I would like you to refer to AVSA magazine, Vol. 30, No. 2, March 1977. The second question and answer are a direct answer to your question and will help you to understand the difference.

Under normal conditions and if there is no natural recessiveness in the leaves used you will get blossoms similar to each leaf planted. Mother leaves should be removed when the plantlet is about 2" to 3" high and shows good leaf growth.

Q. Dear Anne: Please give me information on how to go about patenting an African violet and how can I know if there are any other violets like it?

A. If you are inquiring about obtaining a patent for a new cultivar you should get specific information from the USDA, United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C.

If, however, you mean registration of a new cultivar with the AVSA, then contact our registrar, Mrs. Adele Tretter, 4988 Schollmeyer, St. Louis, Mo. 63109, for registration blanks and information.

FACT AND CORRECTION

There seems to be a bit of confusion regarding a question asked in the June issue.

A member asked about one of the original species of the African violet *Saintpaulia pusilla*. The description of this species is as follows:

Miniature mauve and white flowers with tiny purple backed triangular leaves. It is known as the smallest species ever found and believed to have been lost forever since the World War II Berlin bombings. This description compares with the one given in Ruth Carey's *Judges Handbook* and also I wish to refer to the description in the literature that was available on the educational table at the St. Louis convention.

Many members thought the question referred to the *Sinningia pusilla*, which is spelled the same with the capital S and the small p of the *pusilla*. So many members were kind enough to write and offer addresses of commercial houses where the latter is available. However, I felt a correction was in order that the question referred to was for the original African violet species.

Incidentally, those of us who heard the lecture given on the *Saintpaulia* species at the annual business meeting of the convention this year were greatly enlightened by the description and actual presence of many of the species. We are a fortunate society in having such deep roots in our beginnings.

TIP . . . Beware of paint fumes in your growing area. I was inspired to paint and decorate my lovely plant room that has been, for me, a real therapy after a long illness, but alas I was thoughtless of my beautiful plants. Just overnight dozens of plants lay wilted and lifeless and dozens more have a very sick look about them.

I would heartily suggest moving violets out of areas that require paint and especially if an enamel is to be used. Even with good ventilation, fumes can permeate and cause great damage to tender flowers and foliage.

YEARBOOK AWARD GOES TO CANTON

In the 1977 yearbook competition the award for the third prize fell to the AVS of Canton, OH of which Mrs. Ralph Lott of Akron, OH is president. Through an error in the article the name of the president was listed wrong. Please accept our apologies, Mrs. Lott.

LIFE MEMBER IS OMITTED

The name of Mrs. Ruth Roberts, 918 Normandy Drive, Bakersfield, CA was omitted from the Life Membership List appearing in the June African Violet Magazine. We are sorry, Mrs. Roberts.

Demand Increasing for Flowering Houseplants

Dale Eyerdom
Granger Gardens
1060 Wilbur Road
Medina, OH 44256

(ED. NOTE: This is the conclusion of a two-part article)

If lack of problems regarding plant fungi relative to the *Saintpaulia* are true, the same cannot be said about INSECT AND MITE damage. The four pests giving the greatest problems are root-knot nematodes, soil and foliar mealy bug, mites, and thrips. Fungus gnats, springtails, and millipedes can be present but pose no serious threat to the plant. It is my opinion that curing with chemicals is a poor substitute to preventing, either by chemicals or steam the condition occurring when a crop is overrun by insect pests. For those of you buying stock, make sure that the stock you purchase is clean. Isolation and observation is the only way to insure this if you know what you are looking for. From there on it is your responsibility to maintain this standard. Root-knot nematode to my thoughts is the most serious pest since all the activity takes place below the soil and by the time the damage is noted, complete infestation of an entire bench area will have occurred. They are highly communicable pests especially in ranges where subirrigating is practiced. I do not feel that there are many chemicals that will give complete control at this time. The pest may be reduced in intensity, but complete eradication can be done only by observing and roguing infected stock. The Pritchard soil mealy bug is a recent identifiable addition to the list of violet pests. This insect seems to be more obnoxious by its presence rather than the damage it inflicts. A Cygon drench has been recommended for control, however if a more positive approach is desired, inspect and destroy all stock infested. Be sure to incinerate all infested plants to avoid contaminating greenhouse areas not regularly steamed. Cyclamen mite or a mite by any other name is the worst visibly damaging pest and the easiest to control. A preventive program of Kelthane 18½EC spray diluted one teaspoon per gallon at monthly intervals will usually suffice. The key to efficient mite control is to recognize the damage as it occurs. This damage is irreversible and new heart leaves must be regrown. If damage is too severe, discard the plants. Chances are that if Kelthane applied properly does not control, then

the problem is not mite. Thrips, any and all strains, can be a persistent problem during the summer months due to their complex life cycle involving the migration into the soil, as a pupa where they are impervious to sprays, and their emergence as adults after the spraying is done. Parathion in the aerosol bomb had given good control, but since it is no longer manufactured, Vapona has given us satisfactory results, but only with more frequent applications than we like to make. The systemic theory of insect control may be the answer, but at this time we do not have an EPA label to legally use some forms of this type insecticide.

Other factors besides insects and diseases that can be a problem are cold water spot on the leaves, and powdery mildew. To avoid cold water spot, water for violets should be heated to slightly above room temperature and watering be avoided during periods of maximum allowable light in the growing area. Powdery mildew on foliage and blossom stems can be reduced by temperature and relative humidity control, however if this is not enough, there are several preparations on the market including the old standby, flowers of sulphur vaporized from the steam pipes. Be careful that excessive amounts of sulphur are not used as it can result in tissue burn on the underside of the leaves. Any and all chemical must be used with caution regarding the mammalian toxicity to the grower taking into consideration the possible accumulative buildup in the human body when exposed to the chemical over a long period of time and the phytotoxic effect the chemical may have on the crop. This may vary from application to application when temperature, relative humidity, and other conditions may vary even slightly. Strict adherence to following the label regarding correct usage, application, and even ultimate disposal of the container should be the mandate of all responsible growers.

Due to labor becoming a greater cost factor in plant production, WATERING methods have been going more toward the automatic type including

the subirrigation method whereby benches are flooded, then drained, relying on the soil capillary structure to irrigate the soil ball thoroughly. I am not convinced that this is the best method of violets from an overall standpoint. It is true that labor is saved, but the resulting consequences may offset this savings. Regardless of how it is applied, most important is that the proper amount is applied, especially not too much.

PROPAGATION is generally from leaf cuttings. Select varieties which represent a well-rounded assortment of types and colors. The full color spectrum should be carried including white. Leaves selected for propagating should be young and vigorous. Avoid the extremely large faded-out leaves from old plants. Retrim the leaf petiole leaving a 1" stem and insert the petiole into a sterile cutting medium, such as vermiculite. We prefer to use steel cutting flats rather than a cutting bench due to the ease of sterilizing and the flexibility in using overhead racks when needed. Flat dimensions are 14 x 24 inches and will contain from 56 to 72 leaves per flat. Average time from leaf sticking to planting is 5 months. During this time the cuttings are fed constantly the same as potted plants. From cutting flats, the crowns are divided and single plants are potted in 2½" pots. This is a departure from the old days when multiple crown plants were the mandate. The single crown results in a symmetrical plant that will bloom much easier for the customer rather than ending up as a pot full of leaves. Plants not sold in 2½" pots are transferred to the 3½" pots and sold as blooming plants. The 2½" pot production represents about 85% of our sales, and are sold as growing-on stock without blooms. All of our production is watered with constant feed hose watering. I think that if we were in 5" plant production, the tube method of watering would be an advantage. The time interval between leaf taking and marketing is dependent on which stage of growth your planning involves. To produce growing-on stock, we allow 6 to 7 months. For flowering 3½" plants an additional 10 weeks may be required so we are talking about 10 months as an average factor for a finished 3" plant. This may seem slow according to other growers, but it is a representation of our time schedule. The size of the actual plant should be considered when purchasing stock. What may be considered a 4" plant by one producer may actually be no larger than another grower's 2½" plant. From this time schedule, it is apparent that violets are not a quick catch crop.

* In addition to selective plant breeding through hybridizing, many mutagenic agents have been used — Colchicine with polyploid the only result.

Caffeine, nicotine and irradiation of seeds and leaf cuttings have been done with very little if any significant results. Natural mutations have given us the initial breakthroughs for necessary plant variations. Normal diploids have a chromosome count of 30 and tetraploids a count of 60 which resulted in larger blooms, but fewer blossoms per stem, a deceleration of plant maturity, and hard unmanageable foliage, coincidental with a poor plantlet yield per cutting.

One word of caution again regarding the use of agricultural chemicals directed at owners and managers, and that is to follow the label. The indiscriminate use of any pesticide by a small minority of growers can reflect on the industry in general. Most of you in the audience probably don't remember the cranberry episode of 20 years ago, whereby all growers suffered from the stupidity of a few. For those involved in sales of food chains this should be a sobering thought. A word to the wise should be sufficient.

Not only the consumer needs protection but also you as the owner, grower, or manager must instruct your employees in safe, intelligent, careful applications of all pesticides. Perhaps my affiliation with a rescue squad causes overconcern in this respect, but if an employee or applicator displays symptoms of pesticide poisoning, is it your responsibility to assist this individual by calling competent medical authorities and supplying these authorities with the name of the chemical and the antidote suggested, especially when organic phosphates are being used.

As a retailer or a grower, you have three routes to travel. You may choose to grow your plants from leaves, buy growing-on stock for finishing, or purchase finished plants for immediate resale. Which way to go depends on sales volume and stock availability. Generally speaking the purchase of growing-on stock would be the most advantageous if the facilities and labor are available. For the retailer who wants to display the violets at their best, the use of a fluorescent light stand could be used to an advantage if greenhouse facilities are not available.

Sales aids advising customer how to care for the plants after they take them home can be of great value to the retailer. These can be made up by you or secured from either of two plant societies devoted to the African violet. In this vein of thinking, do not overlook the serious collector trade. Even though it may require more of your salesperson's time, they will remember your courtesies when they are in need of other floral products and services. Much valuable research has been carried on with monetary grants furnished by such organ-

izations for which they should be credited. With a quality product and a conscientious effort on the part of the retailer, I think violets are here to stay.

Violets Teach Consideration

Lahla Yakel, whose article, "Why Not Start a Junior African Violet Club?", appeared in the September, 1976 African Violet Magazine, is continuing her work with her students at Cupertino (CA) Junior High School again this year. Here is an update on her junior club program:

"In June we completed the third year club. Students are at Cupertino Junior High for two years, so each year we have beginners and old hands.' The format I described in the article is basically the same. There were some firsts this year. There were two boys who were members, not because their girl friends were members but because they like African violets. We had the first visually handicapped student. Molly can see an object that is 3-4 inches from her eye if it is as large as an African violet blossom. She is legally blind. We also started our library with AVSA Magazines donated by AV Society of Palo Alto.

"The success of these 7th and 8th graders and also their knowledgeability of the culture of African violets was comparable, I believe, to any group of adults. They are a great group! This year I received many notes from members and parents, too, expressing appreciation for what the club has meant to them. One member wrote, "You taught me tenderness with plants." I am known as Mrs. African Violet at school. Teachers, the office staff, and even the cafeteria workers are growing violets.

"I want to share an experience at the first meeting this year. I planned for 15 students at the meeting, and 20 members were there. I didn't know what to do.

"In accordance with my philosophy that it's their club and they should decide what to do, I told them I didn't expect so many and did not have enough leaves for all. Nancy spoke up and said, 'Mrs. Yakel, why don't the new members get the leaves and the old members will help them and show them how to get them planted?' And they all agreed, and I thought that was beautiful. Maybe sharing and caring and being considerate of others is what the club is really all about.

The Little Redhead That Still Cries

Penny Brenner
1882 Farragut St.
New Orleans, LA.

Have you ever believed you were truly losing your mind?

After a hard day at work not too long ago, I came home, took a nap, and when I got up decided to water my plants. Having several stands to take care of, it was late into the night when I got to the stand with the Redhead. As I bent over to water her, I noticed droplets of water on the edges of her foliage. I thought, you must be losing your mind! African Violets don't cry!

Well, I left the room and when I returned for a second look, sure enough she was still "crying." There was nothing to do but to finish my watering, go to bed, and check on her in the morning.

Bright and early I looked in on her, only to find that her tears had dried up and gone away and in their place was a very fine white residue, like salt that was very difficult to wipe off.

This phenomenon went on for several weeks when I ran into Dr. Pope, our Horticultural Agent from the Louisiana Extension Service, whose office is located in Baton Rouge. I told him about my mysterious Redhead and in turn had a very enlightening lesson.

Did you know that African Violets guttate? Well, they do!

African Violets, like many other plants have hydrothodes in the edges of their leaves. When the temperature drops and the humidity is high, the plants get rid of excess moisture through these hydrothodes. Likewise, when the environmental factors reverse, the hydrothodes pull in the remainder of the droplet, leaving a light white deposit on the leaves. This phenomenon quite often is seen on Pothos or Philodendrum.

I asked Dr. Pope if this was bad for the plant and he said that it could possibly cause a problem at some time because bacteria that are present in our air all of the time could be absorbed by the plant through the droplets of water that were pulled back into the plant after sitting there all night.

My Redhead still cries, hopefully, tears of happiness because she is so healthy and beautiful, and I am happier in the knowledge that I wasn't mistreating her in some way that I was not aware of.

KITCHEN BASTER

A kitchen baster is excellent for watering plants without injuring leaves.

REGISTRATION REPORT



Adele Tretter
4988 Schollmeyer
St. Louis, MO 63109

(NOTE TO REGISTRANTS: The Editor would like to use color slides of your newly registered violets in the Magazine. Use only light backgrounds. Dark slides cannot be reproduced. Send original color slides to Editor with name of plant and name of hybridizer.)

The following registrations have been received during the period from May 31 through August 1, 1977.

CALIFORNIA (3151) V 3 s S-M 6/2/77
COLORADO (3152) V-R 3 sf S 6/2/77
DELAWARE (3153) V-R 3 sc S-M 6/2/77
FLORIDA (3154) M-V 3 s S 6/2/77
GEORGIA (3155) P 2 s S 6/2/77
MARYLAND (3156) M-B 3 s-dc S 6/2/77
NEW JERSEY (3157) P 3 sf S 6/2/77
NEW YORK (3158) D-V-B 3 sc S 6/2/77
PENNSYLVANIA (3159) V-R 3 s-dc S 6/2/77
VIRGINIA (3160) P 3 sf S 6/2/77

**Reinhold Holtkamp, Wertherstr. 112 4294
Isselburg, Germany**

MAGIC CHARM (3161) BX 39 df S 6/6/77
Don Wilson, Wilson Bros. Floral Co., Roachdale, IN 46172

MOM (3162) OX 39 s-d S 6/27/77
Mrs. Betty Weekes, 1356 E. Cypress Ave., Glendora, CA 91740

MINI FANTASY (3163) OP 9 s-d M 7/5/77
TINARI'S CRIMSON GLOW (3164) OX 23 sf S 7/5/77

LAVENDER TIARA (3165) OX 38 s-d S 7/5/77
Tinari Greenhouses, 2325 Valley Rd., Box 190, Huntingdon Valley, PA. 19006

CARE DEEPLY (3166) D-P 2 dc S 7/16/77
FREE N' EASY (3167) R-P 2 dc S 7/16/77
JOYFUL (3168) WR-E 5 sf S-M 7/16/77
LITTLE DELIGHT (3169) WV 5 dc M 7/16/77
LITTLE LOU (3170) V-B 7 dc M 7/16/77
LITTLE LULU (3171) M-P 7 dc S-M 7/16/77

MYSTICAL BLUE (3172) M-BX 2 dc S 7/16/77
PINK 'N INK (3173) PV 2 d S 7/16/77
STEPPING OUT (3174) M-P 3 df S 7/16/77
TWINKLE TOES (3175) R-PX 9 d M 7/16/77
Lyndon Lyon, 14 Mutchler St., Dolgeville, NY 13329

PEGGY STAAT (3176) VXW 39 d S 7/29/77
Mrs. J. Chadwick, 3411-21 Ave., Rio Rancho, NM 87124

BARBARA JEAN (3177) D-P 2 d L 7/30/77
CNE CENTENNIAL (3178) D-P 29 d L 7/30/77
GAVIN DOUGLAS (3179) L-P 23 d L 7/30/77
KAREY (3180) L-PX 29 dc S 7/30/77
LOCHIEL (3181) D-B 23 sc L 7/30/77
PAMELA (3182) M-B 23 dc L 7/30/77
SOURIS (3183) WOC 23 dc L 7/30/77
TOP FLIGHT (3184) R-P 239 d L 7/30/77
Ernest Fisher, 32 Downsview Ave., Downsview, Ontario M3M 1C9 Canada

Reservations

The following reservations have been received during the same period as above.

SIROCCO * DELTA DREAMER 6/2/77 **Reserved by Simpson's AV, 6715 Randolph Ave., Burnaby BC, vsh 3w3 Canada**

MIDNIGHT LOVE * TIPPY STAR 6/2/77 **Reserved by Mary Mahen, 326 Big Bend, Valley Park, MO.**

RAINBOW'S ASPEN — RAINBOW'S AVALANCHE — RAINBOW'S CANYON SPARKLE — RAINBOW'S CELEST — RAINBOW'S KATHRYN — RAINBOW'S MOUNTAIN STREAM — RAINBOW'S RAGSAMUFFIN — RAINBOW'S SHADOW — RAINBOW'S UTAH SKIES — RAINBOW'S WINNITHER **Reserved by David Hirt, 1130 E. Main, American Fork, Utah, 84003.**

ELEPHANT EARS * ICE STORM 7/28/77 **Reserved by Deborah J. Good, 5735 Roowell Rd., N.E. #E-4, Atlanta, GA 30342**

Preparing Plants For Show

Mrs. H. N. Hansen
708 Wyndale Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

(ED. NOTE: This is the second of a two-part article: Part I, Selection Symmetry and Floriferousness, Part II, Condition)

Condition — the physical aspect of a plant AT THE TIME IT IS JUDGED — covers a multitude of things. There are, on the whole, things which you as the exhibitor can control. Basically, you must practice good horticulture but from that time on, you are responsible for the condition of the plant and the 20 of the 100 points which your plant can earn when it is judged. The following are some of the things which you can control to maintain or improve the condition of your plants:

A plant should never have a neck. If a neck starts to form and the plant is not yet ready for a larger size pot, all you need to do is remove the plant from the pot, cut off enough from the bottom so the neck will be below the surface of the soil when repotted, and fill in the top with new soil, leaving enough space for watering. You may want to scrape some of the hard outer surfaces from the neck so that new roots can form more easily. If the plant is ready to go into the next size pot, the neck will probably be covered by the soil, but if not, the same process as above may be followed. This should be done well before show time, not at the last minute.

Dust and soil on the leaves and petioles will also lose points for the plant. Frequent spraying with WARM water will help to keep the leaves dust free; a soft brush may be used to remove soil from the stems. Plants breathe through their leaves and spraying them will help them to breathe more easily. Be sure to use warm water allow the plants to dry out of the sun and drafts. If you grow under artificial light the plants may be put back on the shelves right away. Be sure that no water remains in the crown of the plant.

A sucker on a plant will disqualify it from being judged. A sucker is defined as "The beginning of a new plant which forms near the base of the plant or in the axil where the petiole joins the main plant stem and which has developed four leaves with no evidence of bud formation." If you are the least bit doubtful as to whether it is a sucker or a bud, it is best to remove it, being sure that ALL of it is gotten out. You should thoroughly check your plants for suckers BEFORE bringing them to the show. The Passing Committee does not always have the time or good enough light to spot a sucker.

Faded blooms should also be removed by cutting them off close to the main stem so that no stub is left. The same holds true when removing leaves — be sure no stub is left. If there is any question that a bloom has even started to fade, it is best to remove it as you can be sure that by the time the judges see it, it will be faded and they will spot it. Also, be sure that all stubs left from disbudding have been removed.

Over or underpotting can cost you up to three points. The plant should appear to be in proportion to the pot. If it is just slightly over or underpotted, you might get by with it, but an obviously disproportionate plant can well cost you a blue ribbon. Any shape pot may be used as long as the leaves are not supported by the pot.

Blooms should be evenly spaced around the crown of the plant. You can help in this by making sure that the bloom stalks are above the leaves, not hiding underneath. However, be very careful in moving them as they are brittle and you can pull the whole stem out all too easily.

There should be no traces of sprays or insecticides on the leaves of your plant. Spraying with warm water can help to remove these traces. It should go without saying that the plant should be healthy and show no evidence of disease, past or present.

A plant which should be variegated and shows little or no variegation is better left at home if you hope to win a blue ribbon on it. Even though it may show no variegation in the foliage, it must be entered in the variegated class (unless Classification slips up on this and it is not caught by the judges). Most judges will take enough points off under condition for the lack of variegation so that it cannot earn a blue ribbon.

Be sure that collars, stakes and name tags are removed. Seed pods should also be removed but if you do leave it on you will lose only one point and if it is a special cross from which you are expecting great things you may not want to remove it.

If a plant is not centered in the pot the growth will be lopsided and you will lose points under symmetry. When repotting be sure that the plant is in the middle of the pot. If it is not you can easily remedy this by sliding a spoon down the side of the pot and gently pushing the plant into place.

If you have given a plant consistent and constant care you should have a blue ribbon winner provided you have paid attention to details. Grooming and culture go hand in hand in growing a plant for show.



Mr. and Mrs. Sim T. Holmes (center) talk violets with Lcdr. and Mrs. Gilson L. McClure, Philadelphia Naval Base.

Holmes Sells His Business

Lcdr. and Mrs. Gilson L. McClure are the new owners of the Sim T. Holmes African Violet and Plant Shop in Beaver, PA. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes have moved to their new home in Port Charlotte, FL, where he expects to continue hybridizing African violets, and, as he says, "my ambition is to write a new and complete African violet book which will cover all phases of African violets from beginners to large greenhouse growers. I have been working on a new 7-point program that I have developed for cross pollination which I believe will be a new step forward in new varieties.

Mr. Holmes started his carburetor and tune-up business 41 years ago and after a back injury was forced to sell it. He then turned to his 12-year-old hobby of growing African violets and turned it into a lucrative business. He gives much credit for his success with violets to his wife, Olivetta.

A lay minister for the United Methodist Church, Mr. Holmes has been a great witness through growing, selling and writing on African violets. When he was in the hospital with the back injury he received letters from African violet growers all over the world.

GOOD LIGHT

Good light is necessary for good bloom. If your African violet is not blooming, chances are that not enough light is reaching the center of the plant.



LAND OF OZ - The Orange County AVS of California's first show "Violets in the Land of Oz", was attended by approximately 1,000 persons. Top photo shows Marna Striepens with her winning "Munchkinland" arrangement and Pat Cohen with best mini 'Coco'; Lower photo pictures Anna Hill, winner in design division, holding one of her dish gardens, and Arthur Hill holding trophy for 'Miriam Steel', Queen of Show. Other winners were: AV Council of Southern California, 'Coral Frost', Hill and M. Wilson; sweepstakes most gold ribbons, Hill and Gail Twork; sweepstakes, horticulture, Hill; best novice, 'Val's Sweet Dream', Gail Twork; best semimini, 'Dotty Dimple', Louise Beck; Berma Plastics Award, Arlene Dossey.

Improved Entry Tags

AVSA entry tags, printed in violet ink with the AVSA insignia, add prestige to your show!

NEW tags have two perforated sections. As entries are made, The Claim Check (bottom section) is torn off and held for checking out entries.

The center section is folded **UP** and fastened under the side slashed during judging. Clerks use "Entry Book No." **NOT** exhibitor's name to record awards. This section has printing on the reverse side planned to be punched so that the award given will be accurately recorded on both sections. There is also space for recording any Special Award.

After judging is completed, the section which was folded up is removed by the clerks to be used by committee chairmen — Awards, Judges'

CAN YOU TOP THIS?

Mary Ann Mansfield
Lakes and Hill AVS
653 Blairshire Circle
Winter Park, Fla. 32792

In December, Allister Vallee attended one of our meetings as a guest. Then in January she came to the club's African violet clinic and became a member of our group.

What would you think if in June you saw an almost perfectly symmetrical, healthy eight inch plant, 'Genesee Moonbeam', with nine large blossoms sitting on the plant exchange table?

Allister had put down leaves in early March and used the following routine for achievement: 10 plants, seven in bloom, and three well-budded in only 3½ months. (Her accomplishment has been testified to by another member of our club.)

Containers - 1 oz. plastic medicine glasses with drainage holes

Soil - Jiffy Mix

Fertilizer - Schultz, 7 drops/quart water

Wicked

Light - Fluorescent plant lights, 15 hours/day, top of pots 5 inches below light until the plantlets are taken from the leaf. Plantlets in 1 oz. medicine glasses 5 inches below light until well leaved. Plant in small pots placed 7 inches from top of pot to light.

Now the question all of us pros are asking is: "Are we good teachers or should we take a lesson from our pupil?"

Do NOT write to Editor for Magazines or back issues of the Magazine. Write to Knoxville office!

Clerks, Show, Publicity — for recording, checking, and compiling statistics for sweepstakes, for the AVSA Standard Show Award (green rosette), for the club's records, or for publicity information.

Try them! You'll like them! They couldn't be duplicated for the low cost of \$2 per 100. Order from the AVSA Business Office, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901.



*African Violet
Society of
America, Inc.*

AVSA STANDARD SHOW

Section _____ Class ☐

Entry Book No. _____

Variety _____
or design title

Exhibitor's No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Special Award _____

Blue Red White None

Fold Here

Exhibitor's No. _____ Entry No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Variety _____ Class _____
or design title

Tear Off

Claim Check

Exhibitor's No. _____ Entry No. _____

Exhibitor's Name _____

Variety _____ Class _____



Musings from the "Mini-Mam"

Mrs. Sidney (Ellie) Bogin
Chr. Miniature and Semimini Class
39 Boyd Street
Long Beach, NY 11561

SPRING SHOW WINNERS

AVS of Springfield, PA.

Best Mini, 'Double Take' — Emilee McLaughlin

Bellflower AVS, Inglewood, CA

BEST IN SHOW, 'Little Jim' — George Crouchet
Gold rosette, 'Dora Baker,' 'Icicle Trinket,' 'Little Jim' — George Crouchet

Orange County AVS, CA

Best Mini, 'Dolly Dimples' — Louise Beck

Pomona Valley, AVS, CA

Best Single, 'Little Red' — Wanda Jones

Best Semi, 'Little Dogwood' — George Crouchet

Congratulations to all of you. As you can see from the above, another "little one" has won best in show. Three semis took the Gold rosette and a mini won best single. I am delighted to see that some judges have stopped eliminating these beautiful wee ones from competition for top awards. They are successfully proving they can hold their own.

A few people who have received the Miniature and Semiminiature Culture and Variety list have been kind enough to send me lists of plants they did not find in it. The miniature list only encompasses a 10-year period, 1965-1975. The 1976 supplement lists only those released that year. With the higher postage rates, it is too expensive and too unwieldy to list all the past minis and semis. Older varieties can be found in the old master list or write to me for information. We are now working on a supplement for 1977 which should be ready around the first of the year.

I have obtained some of the new capillary mat material that is being used successfully by a number of growers. The mats are watered with the usual fertilizer and it is picked up by the plants in a capillary action that is similar to wicking. At this time, I am trying some other gesneriads, that do not take to drying out, on the mats and if they do well, I will try the minis and semis on it. There should be enough time for me to evaluate this method and report to you in the next AVSA issue.

New plants that are living up to their promise are: 'Little Jim' from Maas. It never stops blooming, 'Little Chrissy' from Ray Dooley is also in constant bloom. Ed Maas sent me a 'Double Clackamus Rattler' and it is lovely and unusual. For those of you who don't know the "Clackamus" foliage, the leaves are lined like a watermelon. 'Wee Lass,' an adorable mini with many, many white and red edged double flowers and 'Little Delight,' with purple edged white doubles are from Lyndon Lyon and a source of pleasure in their beauty.

'Mini Minx' and 'Irish Angel' from Annalee Violetry and Ethel Champion's new 'Midget Ringer,' 'Sapphire Trinket,' 'Trinket White Caps' and 'Misty Trinket' have not bloomed yet but are growing well. Ernie Fisher of Canada sent me his new 'Little Dolly,' a semi and a leaf of 'Daintiness,' a mini. Will have to report on all these at a later date.

The 1975 Miniature and Semiminiature Culture and Variety list is available from me at the cost of \$2.00. **PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS OUT TO AVSA.** The 1976 supplement will be included. If you already have the list and just want the supplement, send a **LARGE** self-addressed envelope. **PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE CHECKS TO THE LETTER!**

There is still time to send us any new varieties that you have come across, to list, in the 1977 supplement. **HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.**

MORE AWARDS

Eight more named cultivars are to receive awards at the 1977 AVSA Convention/Show in Austin, TX April 13-15.

These cultivars are 'Janey Briscoe,' 'Burgundy Rose,' 'Beginner's Luck,' 'Baby Doe,' 'Colorado Rosebud,' 'Hondo' and 'Superfection'.

VIOLETS ON LIGHTS

Mrs. Karen Coldwell
Green Island Lightstation
P. O. Box 367
Prince Rupert, B.C.
Canada V8J 3R1

"The Competition rating board recommends your appointment to senior lightkeeper position at Green Island Lightstation. Please advise soonest as to whether you accept this position."

The preceding message is usually greeted with mixed feelings. The excitement of transferring to a different lighthouse usually overrides the thought of the packing to come. The transfers are usually made by ship and one can spend anywhere from one to ten days en route, which brings us to the fun of moving violets.

The first transfer we made, I had no idea of how to pack them properly, so they travelled in an open box with packing around each pot. We spent three days on board ship that time and the violets travelled well; until we reached our destination. The box was placed in a small workboat with other cartons plus crew members. Upon reaching shore, the box, which was balanced close to the edge, was unfortunately in direct aim of one of the seamen's feet as he leapt ashore. Exit most of the violets into the sea. You can imagine the shock I felt upon seeing what had been beautiful plants a couple of hours before, nothing but a mess of broken leaves covered with dirt!

Three years later and with a much larger collection of violets, we were again on the move. This time I had purchased Helen Van Pelt Wilson's book which has a section on how to pack violets for moving. This time the move took a week. Once more I had left the carton open so the crew could see there were plants in the box and take extra care with them. The station we were moving to had only one method of getting things from ship to shore in bad weather. Everything was slung up on an aerial carriage. All went well with the violets until it came time to sling them up the highline. The weather was very foggy and combined with the winch shed being at the top of the cliff, there was a slight mix-up in hand signals. The end result? You guessed it - once more the violets were dumped!!! But not quite as badly as before!

Six weeks later we were again on the move. The violets were packed as before but were flown off the station to the ship by helicopter. At least they escaped a trip down the highline!! As always, the plants were kept in the cabin with us during the



WATCH IT!—"Watchit! Somewhere in there there're violets!" Here's method used to get Karen Coldwell's violets along with household articles from ship to shore in bad weather. Everything, Mrs. Coldwell says, "was slung up on an aerial carriage." You've guessed it! — she lives at the Green Island Lightstation in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. "Our mode of transportation is certainly different," she explained. "But when the wind is howling outside and your violets are in full bloom inside - - Well, it makes the frustration of moving seem minor!

trip. This trip took ten days, on two different Coast Guard ships, with the transfer from ship to ship taking place in the middle of a bay. Upon reaching Green Island, the violets were left until I went ashore at the end of unloading our furniture, etc. My words to the seaman who came to take them to the workboat were "Please DON'T dump them!" Believe it or not—they arrived on Green Island in one piece. My father-in-law's comment was he could "see me standing over them, broom in hand."

Moving the violets is perhaps our main problem even though we take care to transport young plants only. Naturally we have the usual worries about leaving them while on holidays, uninvited guests in the soil every so often and why some are not doing as well as their neighbors. There are no organized "clubs" as such on the lights, but word soon gets around as to who grows what. If one has a problem, there is usually someone on the circuit we can ask!

What we really miss is being able to talk to someone about the violets whenever you want. Unless you have a plant loving assistant next door

or a CB radio, our "talks" depend on the mail — which comes and goes once a month. As for the "African Violet Magazine", we love it for keeping us up to date on what is going on, etc. But the

violets have travelled many miles with us, been passed around to other lightstations and while grown under lights, bring constant joy to many "on the lights".

AVSA AFFILIATES

*Mrs. Wayne (Mildred) Schroeder
Affiliate Chairman
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In this issue of The African Violet Magazine you will find a list of 416 affiliated organizations. We are very proud of these clubs since they are a vital part of our Society. This list is published for your use. If you are seeking a club in your state you may want to get in touch with the president of the affiliate nearest you. The list includes all clubs affiliated as of July 1. If your listing is not complete, please send me the additional information so that I may keep my records current.

During the past year there has been much difficulty in the Knoxville office with the renewal dues notices which have not been returned in many instances or they have been returned without the information requested being filled out. Perhaps this is due to the fact that many affiliates have their magazine sent to a library or some other group. This renewal card has been sent in the past to this address and has not found its way to the club president in time to notify her that the dues must be paid. This year the renewal notice will be sent to the president and she will be responsible to have the treasurer pay the dues and she will also fill in the needed information. I am sure that this will be a big help to both the Knoxville office and to me as Affiliate Chairman. There is need for every bit of information on this form so please be sure that you send it to the Knoxville office and Mrs. Bell will forward it to me after she has recorded the information she needs, and has processed your check for the dues.

The following AVSA Sweepstakes Awards were presented to the winners of the most blue ribbons in Council, State and Regional Society shows:

ILLINOIS AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. Mildren Brown, Alton, Illinois.

BAY STATE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mr. John Montague, Belmont, Massachusetts.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AFRICAN VIOLET

COUNCIL, Alvah Whitledge, Aurora, Colorado
AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA, Mrs. Leon Fiedler, Prescott, Wisconsin
DIXIE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, Mrs. J. Stanley Gremillion, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Stacks of mail greeted me on my return from a month long tour of Japan. Preparing the Affiliate organizations list and answering urgent inquiries have taken much time, so if you have not had an answer to your letter you soon will. Yes, there were beautiful African violets in Japan and they did remind me that the beauty of the African violet is world-wide.



LOVELY PLANTS—These lovely plants were started from leaves by Mrs. Beth Ayo of Gray, LA, who now has quite a collection. On the left is 'Pink Electric' and right is 'G Blue'. Like other violet growers, she has had misfortune. "Being a novice, I did not recognize the signs of mites," she said. "I lost all of my 30 mature plants. But I did take a leaf cutting from each plant, and started all over again. These are the results."

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Mildred E. Schroeder, Affiliate Chairman
1739 N. 74 Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635

The following list includes chapters, councils and regional groups, affiliated with AVSA and their presidents. The asterisk (*) opposite the affiliate's name designates 100% AVSA membership.

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- AVS OF CANBERRA, Mrs. P. Patterson, 54 Nemarang Crescent Waramanga ACT 2611 Australia.
- AVS OF QUEENSLAND, Mrs. F. Murray, 35 Monroe St., Kelvin Grove, Brisbane, 4059 Queensland, Australia.
- AVS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Mr. D. Boyce, Stirling S. A.
- WARRAGUL AND DISTRICT AV GROUP, Mrs. Ann White, 112 Smith St., Warragul, 3820 Australia

BAHAMAS

- BAHAMAS AVS, Mrs. Harry Scates, P. O. Box 1648 Nassau, Bahamas.

BERMUDA

- BERMUDA AVS, Mrs. Carol M. Rumbelow, Permans Hill, Warcick Parish, Bermuda.

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- AVC OF VANCOUVER, Mrs. E. Mahrer, 345 13th Ave., Vancouver, V5Y 1 Wt British Columbia, Canada.
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- VICTORIA AVC, Mrs. Marjorie Holman, 209 Beechwood Ave, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
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- ROYAL SAINTPAULIA CLUB, Mrs. George McLeod, Penobsquis, New Brunswick, Canada, EOE 1LO
- ANNAPOLIS VALLEY AVS, Mrs. Doreen Gillespie, R. R. #1, Wilmont, Annapolis Co., Nova Scotia, Canada BOP 1 WO.
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- SASKATOON AVS, Mrs. Wilma Regehr, 3326 14th St. E., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
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- CHARLOTTETOWN AVS, Mrs. Floyd Mac Kinnon, 17 Laphorne Ave., Charlottetown, P. E. I. Canada C1A 2M3.
- WINNIPEG AVS, Mrs. M. Innard, 122 Regina Ave., Kenora, Ontario, Canada, P9N 2 Z7.

ENGLAND

- SAINTPAULIA AND HOUSEPLANT SOCIETY, Mr. R. W. Gilbert, 54 Queensborough Terrace, London, England W23SH.

JAMAICA

- AVS OF JAMAICA, P. O. Box 147 Red Hills P. O. St. Andrew, Jamaica.

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- PRIMER CLUB de VIOLETAS, Mrs. James West, Via Latina 110 Fuentes del Valle, GarzaGarcia, N. L. Mexico.

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- AVS OF THE PHILIPPINES, Mrs. Alicia O. Javiel, 81 Maginoo St., Quezon City, Philippines 3008.

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PORTTRAITS

"Wouldn't these blossoms look good on china!"

Delia Symonds was attending her first African violet show and was thinking out loud as she looked at the many beautiful plants on display.

A woman standing near heard her and remarked:

"I've never seen African violets on china."

That started a conversation between the two women. Delia casually mentioned that china painting was her profession. The woman asked her to paint a cup and saucer for her — and that started it all!

"What a world I found with all the lovely people and I've traveled and seen things I would never have seen if it weren't for African violets", Delia said.

Delia became an AVSA member in 1959. She has attended most of the conventions since then and today at any of the AVSA conventions, one will find her in the commercial sales room with her display of exquisite African violets on china — plates, cups and saucers, necklaces, bracelets, ear bobs and lots of other things — all beautifully painted. As a Commercial Member she has her shop, known as Delia's Originals, at 2506 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Affiliate Publications Compete At St. Louis

Edward Bradford
85-25 86th Street

Woodhaven, New York 11421

From a nonjudged display at Boston to a judged competition with only two entries at Atlanta, the affiliate publications competition at the St. Louis convention show expanded six-fold to include five magazines and eight newsletters: AVC of Greater Kansas City, *The Vio-letter*; AV Council of Southern California & Northern Council of AV Societies, *The Council News*; AVS of Minnesota, *The Violet Press*; AVS of Philadelphia, *The Violet Voice*; Bay State (MA) AVS, *Ye Bay Stater*; Dixie AVS, *The Dixie News*; Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers (Denver), *The Rockyglox News*; Illinois AVS, Inc., *African Violet Leaves*; New York State AVS, *The Empire Violet Magazine*; Seattle AVS, Inc., *Blossoms*; Tampa (FL) AVS, *The Petal*; Ventura County, (CA) AVS, *Newsletter*; and Wisconsin Council of AV Clubs, *Council News*.

The Empire Violet Magazine and *Ye Bay Stater* received the First and Second Award rosettes in the Magazine class; *Blossoms* and Ventura County AVS *Newsletter* received the First and Second Award rosettes in the Newsletter class.

After two years of use and evaluation, the scale of points for judging the magazines and newsletters has been revised. The rule requiring a minimum of 10 articles and 10 filler (brief) items per year has been eliminated. Publications will be required simply to provide information about African violets. The amount of material and the length of the items will depend on the size and frequency of the publication. A copy of the revised scale of points plus a packet of data on preparing page layouts, headlines, and simple illustrations will be sent on request to Edward Bradford. Please enclose 46¢ in stamps for first-class postage.

Library packets containing sample issues of affiliate magazines and newsletters, including the top prize winners at the St. Louis convention show, are now available for loan to AVSA affiliate organizations. Send request with a \$2 check payable to AVSA Library, P. O. Box 1326, Knoxville, TN 37901.

Additional information on how to enter your affiliate publication in the Austin convention show will appear in the 1978 show schedule in the January African Violet Magazine. Editors who do not wish to enter the competition are urged to consider submitting their publications for exhibit. The program for the Affiliate Publications Editors' meeting will appear in the convention program in the March issue of AVM. All editors and assistant editors are urged to attend.

Texas Style Tours Set for Convention

Mary Ann Nelson
Tour Chairman

Welcome to Texas — an exciting blend of historical old West culture, famous for its hospitality, and space age technology.

This year's tours have been planned with the emphasis on entertainment — your entertainment.

Whether you prefer spending leisure hours in some of Texas' most historic shrines or enjoy the excitement of a cruise on an authentic paddle-wheeler (complete with Dixie Land band), there will be fun for everyone during Austin's 1978 AVSA Convention.

For those arriving Monday, a mini-tour has been scheduled to Austin's enchanting Zilker Garden Center. Austin AVSA members will be there to guide you through this truly lovely Austin landmark.

Tuesday will be a most interesting day beginning with your choice of a trip to historic San Antonio or a day in LBJ country. The San Antonio group will visit the world famous Alamo, ride on the San Antonio river boats to see why this city is being called the "Venice of America", shop in a little Mexican village, and lunch in the lovely garden setting of Los Patios. Those choosing the LBJ trip will spend an eventful day in the beautiful Texas Hill Country. You will visit the LBJ ranch and see the famous "Texas White House", President Johnson's birthplace, school, and grave. Lunch will be a traditional Texas picnic served family style on the banks of the Pedernales River "just a piece down the road" from the ranch.

The finale for this day's events is indeed a treat. The Riverboat Commodore will pick you up and cruise leisurely along the banks of scenic Lake Austin to its home port — Greenshores. Here its hospitable crew will treat you to a real Texas Style Barbecue with all the trimmings. The return trip down Lake Austin provides the perfect ending for a truly fun filled day.

Wednesday will be a repeat of Tuesday so that all may have the opportunity to visit each location. Sorry, no repeat of the Commodore boat trip. For those desiring a somewhat slower pace, a tour of Austin will be provided Wednesday afternoon. This tour will display a fascinating overview and brief visit to the city's most famous historical and current points of interest. Included are stops at the State Capitol building and the LBJ Library.

Thursday morning you may choose from three equally enjoyable tours. First, there is a tour of the previously mentioned Zilker Garden Center. The return ride will be by way of a route selected to display some of Austin's most beautiful residential areas and selected homes. Second, is a tour for the history buff which will include the 110 year old Governor's Mansion, Texas Memorial Museum, and Laguna Gloria Art Museum located on beautiful Lake Austin. The third tour is a repeat of the Wednesday afternoon Capital City tour.

Thursday afternoon we will provide buses to take you to Highland Mall, one of Austin's largest, with over 80 shops including several fine restaurants. Here you can program your own shopping spree and pick up those treats for family and friends back home.

Friday morning's tour is a must for the real history buff or for anyone interested in an in-depth look at the fascinating world of a man who occupied the nation's highest office. The LBJ Library, located near the University of Texas campus, will be yours to explore for three exciting hours. You will be shown the replica of the oval office as it was during the LBJ years as well as many other exhibits of interest.

This final tour will conclude a most memorable and we hope enjoyable week in the Capital city. Please note that the Convention site itself is located in the central downtown area within four blocks of the state capitol, governor's mansion and other interesting sites. Restaurants and shopping facilities are also within easy walking distance.

The weather should be warm springtime and the floral scenery spectacular this time of year.

We are looking forward to the opportunity to show you real Texas hospitality. See you in Austin!

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HOLIDAY PLANTS

During the holiday season, many African violet growers receive potted plants. Of course, they are most welcome gifts during the festive season but sometimes they bring unwelcome guests with them.

That's why African violet growers are advised to keep these plants well away from their violets . . . either drench these gift plants with a good insecticide, the same as one does with his own violets . . . or just don't put 'em with your violet collection.

Prevention is better than cure. So just take normal precautions, says the Editor of "Violet Time," newsletter of the African Violet Club of Vancouver.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season

Melva Nelson
and the Board of AVSA



TENNESSEE KANDY KANE — Mrs. T. C. Fritz, Kingsport, Tenn.

(Photo by Burton)

How Many Generations In New Introductions?

After seeing the Commercials' New Introductions at the St. Louis Convention/Show many growers were asking, "How long does it take for a hybridizer to prepare a new introduction?"

Lyndon Lyon had already been asked by Mrs. Nelson Hopper, the New York State AVS editor, about his 1976 Best New Introduction, 'Helene', named for Helene Galpin, who was president of the New York State AVS at the time of her death in 1974. At the time she was also serving as chairman of AVSA Commercial Sales and Exhibits and had served as editor of the Empire State Magazine for several years.

Here's what Lyndon Lyon had to say about the parentage of "Helene":

I have followed the parentage back 10 generations to 'Star Sapphire'. Two parents multiplied by 10 equals 544 great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandparents. Five hundred-forty four names in a row are just too much, so I tried just following the male line back to 'Star Sapphire' and think you will find it interesting.

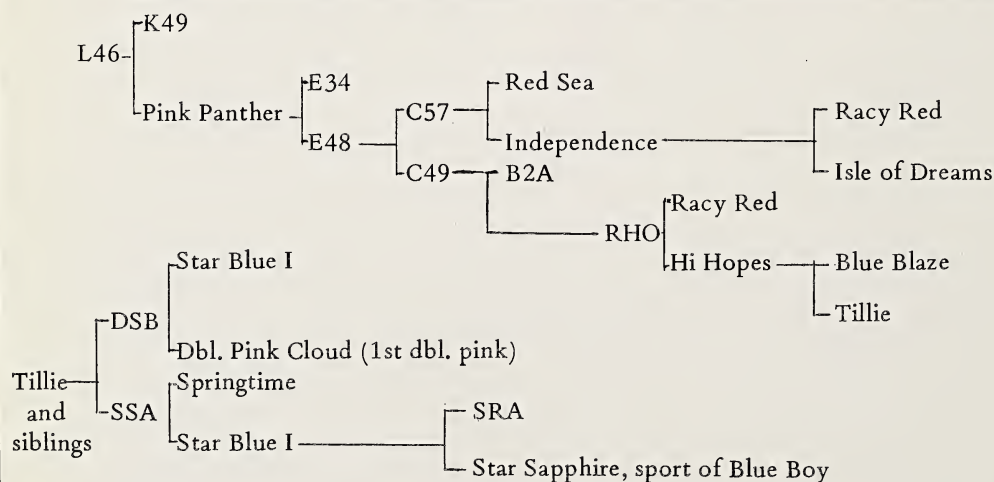
In looking back over these names you will find the names of violets that have changed the shape,

size, and color of the old 'Blue Boy' to the strikingly beautiful modern cultivars. 'Blue Boy' sported to 'Star Sapphire' which is responsible for the symmetrical star shape of 'Helene,' a shape breeders are using to develop more perfect double flowers, like those of roses, tuberous begonias, etc.

You will also find 'Double Pink Cloud' in the pedigree. It was shown at St. Louis in 1954 at the AVSA Convention. A sibling 'Double Bountiful,' also shown, was sold for \$1,000 to Mr. Baxter of Ohio. This was the first time double pink violets were seen at an AVSA Convention. You will also notice the remarkable cross DSB x SSA that produced the first star pink, 'Star Pink' and 'Invader,' the first double star pink, the beginning of the new star shape in violets, 'Invader' won Best New Saintpaulia Commercial Exhibit at Cincinnati in 1957.

'Lovely' another star-shaped single pink sported to 'Redderness', a semi-miniature double fuchsia, the reddest red at that time. A little further on, we find 'Isle of Dreams,' the first double star pink with frilled edges and holly foliage, winning Best New Saintpaulia Commercial Exhibit at Detroit in 1959. Next, we find 'Hi Hopes,' which won Best

HELENE — Rhapsody Mars — a German variety was used as the female parent. It has star-shaped flowers, which may have descended from stars purchased from us several years ago.



Mark Robert

Star Pink (First)

Invader (First dbl. star

Lovely — a single pink star sported to Redderness, the first double red.

New Saintpaulia Commercial Exhibit at French Lick in 1961 and was pictured in Life magazine. A club Hi Hopes was formed in its honor. Further on, we find 'Pink Panther,' a very deep double pink and long a favorite.

At last, we come to 'Helene' herself, with beautiful dark foliage and deep fuchsia red flowers, a color Helene Galpin, for whom it was named, always loved. May its descendants be many, that it may live forever.

I CAME, I SAW, I WAS CONQUERED

Mrs. J. Halford
P. O. Pyramid 0120
Transvaal, Republic of South Africa

Hats off to St. Louis for staging a convention that surely must rank as one of the BEST ever, if not the BEST!

To me, an amateur grower from far off South Africa, I must say that it was a rewarding experience. This, my first convention, proved to be a time of friendship, of fun, and also of learning for me, a few days with all of you that I will not easily forget. For three years I have been an AVSA member, getting the Magazine over here, and then at last I had the pleasure of meeting so many of you wonderful people that contribute so much to the world of African violets.

Surely no convention of that magnitude could have taken place without a veritable array of dedicated people working together to fulfill their duties to the limit and extending their love of the African violet to embrace all who attended this most magnificent of horticultural displays.

Since my return to South Africa, I have a violent recurrence of violet fever for which I hope there is no cure.

St. Louis, I salute you! Yours was a COMMAND PERFORMANCE!

CLUB HAS 11 JUDGES

The African Violet Culture Club of Port Arthur, TX has something to boast of. Out of a roster of 20 members, the club has 11 AVSA judges.

Mrs. J. Clark (Ann) Carpenter, the club president, heads the judge's list, which also consists of Mrs. H. J. Duplantis, Jr., vice president; Mrs. V. J. LaRocca, Jr., treasurer; Mrs. C. J. Ganson, parliamentarian, Mrs. Percy J. Broussard, Mrs. J. H. Chatelain, Mrs. L. P. Chauvin, Mrs. C. E. Dattalo, Mrs. A. D. Fields, Mrs. E. Looper and Mrs. J. T. Bartlett.

COMING EVENTS

(Please send notices of "Coming Events" directly to the Editor; not to the Knoxville office. See inside cover (Strictly Business — Your Business) for deadlines.)

NOV. 18-19 First New Orleans AVS and New Orleans AVS to co-sponsor Christmas Boutique at 2160 Carol Sue Avenue, Gretna, LA. Hand-made items, baked goods, gift plants will be sold. Santa will be on hand for the children. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

APRIL 8-9, 1978 Utica AVS' annual show at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 1640 Geness Street, Utica, NY. Public invited. Mary Dimitriadis, show chairman.



DIXIE WINNERS—Top winners at the Dixie AVS Convention/Show, "Dixie Comes of Age", in Alexandria, LA were, L-R, Mrs. James Bevis, Woodville, FL, 2nd best horticulture specimen, 'Alice Henry'; Mrs. J. Stanley Gremillion of Baton Rouge, LA grand sweepstakes, sweepstakes in horticulture, gesneriad sweepstakes; Tom E. Toms, Bossier City, LA, Queen of Show, 'Amazing Grace', Best AVSA Collection, (Gold Rosette), 'Amazing Grace', 'Granger's Red Flame', 'Top Dollar'; and Mrs. Earl Dunn of Alexandria, LA, 2nd Best AVSA Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Affectionate', 'Chanticleer', 'Juliana'; 2nd Best DAVS Collection (Purple Rosette), 'Val's Top Angel', 'Val's Red Diamond', 'Tommie Lou', 2nd sweepstakes in horticulture. Other top winners were: Mrs. LaRayne Bounds, Alexandria, 2nd gesneriad sweepstakes; Mrs. H. Steven Johnson of Orlanda, FL, 3rd best horticulture specimen, 'Suzy's Mrs. Lucky', design division sweepstakes, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson, Shreveport, LA, 2nd sweepstakes; Mrs. Betty Branton, Pineville, LA; 3rd sweepstakes.



BERNADETTE

GRANGER

SERENITY

(Photos by Aleksandrowicz)





**GOVERNOR
PRYOR**
by
House of Violets
Camden, Ark.
(Photo by Schroeder)



**SATIN
SHEEN**
by
House of Violets
Camden, Ark.
(Photo by Schroeder)

1978 AVSA Convention Loses One — Gains One

Shirley R. Jeffrey
1918 Williamsburg Row
Denton, Texas 76201

Five years ago a young, eager, enthusiastic African violet grower attended an AVSA convention. She was there with the Texas delegation to invite the African Violet Society of America to hold its 1978 convention in Austin, TX. AVSA accepted the invitation and the convention/show dates were set at April 13-15, 1978.

Extending that invitation from Texas was Mrs. Terrance B. (Sandra) Leary. Returning home with the AVSA acceptance safely tucked in her pocket, she learned she was to be the convention chairman. So she started the ball rolling. Since that time and because of her avid interest in AVSA and African violets, she was named AVSA advertising manager by President Melva Nelson. In 1974 she was elected an AVSA director.

Unfortunately earlier this year — not too many months before the 1978 convention — Sandra's husband was called to a new job in Florida. Sandra was broken-hearted. She knew she could take her job as advertising manager to her new home in St. Petersburg, FL but not her job as the 1978 convention chairman. So she turned that over to Gladys Hudnall of Austin with D. J. Lidiak as vice chairman. And, as Sandra says, the convention is still in good hands.

Sandra's name is familiar through her writing and photography in the African Violet Magazine, as well as her position as advertising manager, director, judge and teacher.

Sandra's writing and organizational experience, which has greatly contributed to her multilevel roles in AVSA goes back to college. During this time, she was a biology and art student at the University of Houston, and at the same time freelanced for several magazines and newspapers.

Immediately following college, she worked in marine biology for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, where she wrote and illustrated for the **Texas Game and Fish Magazine**. It was at this time that she wrote the book "**Crabs of Texas**" which is still being used as a supplementary college text in Marine Science courses. Sandra's love for the ocean and sea life is readily seen in her many paintings, some of which have been selected as magazine covers, while others are found in galleries in Texas as well as Alaska.

Discovering African violets several years ago,

she has written a number of articles for the **African Violet Magazine**, often illustrating them with her own photographs. In one article, "From Here To There With All My Plants," she described a method of transporting show plants and new found purchased African violets from AVSA conventions by air with ease and care. Convention travelers going by air now have a practical method of bringing home lovely new introductions as easily as nearby participants. This helpful article, serving to benefit so many, won a President's Citation Certificate.

Probably, Sandra's most extensive AVSA article was a four part series, "Of Pests and Pesticides", which was awarded an AVSA Certificate of Merit. The research for this included her own experiences, as well as, those of her fellow club members, and AVSA growers.

Many readers were delighted with a long awaited feature on the "Texas Charmer" himself, entitled "Meet Howard Utz". The Utz extraordinary hybrids have, for years, been so highly coveted, and with this article, some of his techniques and methods of African violet culture were written about in a very enjoyable manner.

The **African Violet Growing Handbook**, of which she was editor, originated out of Sandra's own First Austin AVS, and was featured in an AVSA article "Growing Handbook Put Out by Club". It is in its fourth printing and is distributed internationally. It's a handbook which is especially useful to affiliates who find that there isn't time enough at their shows to answer all questions individually. The First Austin AVS felt it was an important part of shows to provide growing information to the public, which is what their handbook does so well.

The First Austin AVS was fortunate indeed to be the affiliate to have acquired the time and talents of Sandra Leary. An active member for seven years, she served in various capacities such as president, vice president, and show chairman. The record shows a good organizational ability in the earning of the Standard Achievement Award for three years, and the Standard Show Award for one year.

As an exhibitor, Sandra has received a myriad of horticulture and design awards, most notably

"Best Arrangement" in Minnesota at the 1973 AVSA convention. Subsequently, this lovely arrangement was featured on the cover of the November 1974 issue of the **African Violet Magazine**.

The widespread experience Sandra has with the care and culture of violets, as well as exhibiting, enables her to give invaluable help to less experienced hobbyists'. She encourages growers to share their problems and joys, and not to hesitate to ask questions and seek solutions to any growing or pest and disease problems. Any hobbyist who has grown violets over the years and has any sizeable collection is apt to have problems appear at one time or another.

In her early days of violet growing, Sandra had some problems as all beginning growers do. She recalls the first violets which she lost with such great disappointment. As many new violet growers do, she "killed them with kindness", equating tender loving care with water. Sandra, who is not easily discouraged, began to try to learn more about violet adversaries. Attending the next African violet show in her area, she sought the advice of more experienced growers and asked about some of the problems that she had been having. Determined to learn more, she joined the club at the first opportunity. Since then, Sandra has spent much time and effort learning about cultural practices in an attempt to eradicate African violet problems, and has become a very knowledgeable authority.

Through Sandra's time of learning about violets she found some very dependable and valuable sources. The main sources she suggested are the African Violet Magazine and the participation in an AVSA affiliate. This kind of "active participation" which she refers to comes from the willingness to take one's part, share experiences, and above all, being willing to ask questions and exchange information.

The kind of violeting pursued by Sandra is oriented primarily toward quality plant. This objective, no doubt, has led to a keen interest in hybridizing, a very important part of her hobby which she enjoys. Of course, hybridizers today spend their efforts improving existing cultivars, by breeding varieties with greater beauty and longevity of blossoms. Sandra pursues this goal as well, often using as favorite parent plants, many of the lovely crosses by Howard Utz. The reason for her choice is two fold. Firstly, they are some of the most exquisite crosses in existence today, and secondly, she has kept abreast of Utz' new varieties as quickly as they have been developed over the years. Mr. Utz says Sandra has been a special inspiration to him and his hybridizing

program. No doubt a feeling which is mutual.

Even though much attention is given to hybridizing, Sandra says that she has a special affinity for the species, and enjoys growing them from seed. She places high value on the species as a part of a violet collection.

Sandra's interests in growing violets extends to a regional level. The first joint assembly of the combined affiliates of Texas was spearheaded by the First Austin AVS and chaired by Sandra Leary. Undertaking a tremendous job, their untiring efforts organized the ground work for this task. The AVS members had already given unstintingly of their time and talents to the community of Austin. But the members felt that a council could knit together widely separated Texas clubs (over the miles), which had mutual interests in violets. Also there was the feeling that a council could provide a chance for unique relationships between violet lovers, and opportunity for much desired discussion.

The Lone Star African Violet Council was the first major cooperative venture of its kind in Texas, and it has been an overwhelming success. Having done a splendid job serving as organizational chairman, Sandra Leary was elected the first president of the Council. Sandra's thoughts about the Council are very positive. She says, "I'm so pleased with the Council. The enthusiasm and participation has exceeded my hopes, and I know it will be a wonderful organization from now on." Scores of Texans echo the same feelings. For a good many LSVC members, the real rewards are in the formation of new friendships, and the moments of opportunity to talk about the plants they love so well.

Sandra did a tremendous job in organizing and serving as the Council's first president. To show its appreciation to Sandra before her departure for Florida, the Council presented her with an AVSA Life Membership.

Sandra may not be the 1978 convention chairman, but the Austin convention committee will have her busy "helping out"!

NEED MAGAZINES?

Mrs. Pearl Bowman, 7716 Mad River Road, Dayton, OH 45459 has some African Violet Magazines from early 1951 she wants to sell. If you're interested, why not write her?

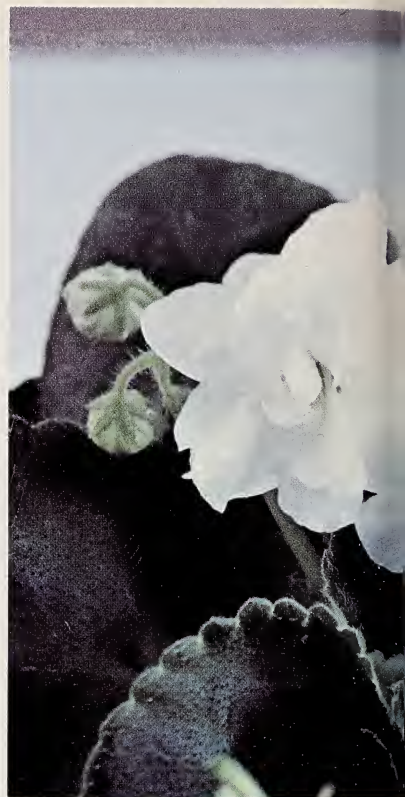
NEW LIFE MEMBER

Mrs. E. A. Nelson, AVSA president, has just welcomed into Life membership another AVSA member. He is David C. White of 26 W. Kiowa Lane, Wheaton, IL 60187.

Park Nurseries

(Photos by W. Robb)

Below: Summer Wine
Center Top: Powder Puff
Center Bottom: Pink Romance
Right: Sweet Mary





Park Nurseries

(Photos by W. Robb)

Below: Summer Wine
Center Top: Powder Puff
Center Bottom: Pink Romance
Right: Sweet Mary



AVSA BOOSTER FUND

Mrs. Lucile Plaster, Chairman
8304 Suffolk Dr.
Shreveport, LA 71106

Now is the time to make a list of gifts you plan to distribute among your friends and associates for Christmas giving. You couldn't please them more than by making a contribution to the BOOSTER FUND in their names. Or, you might honor an anniversary, a birthday, an officer or an outstanding club or a valuable member. What nicer thing could you do for them! You would be so proud of such a gesture on your part and AVSA and the BOOSTER FUND would benefit greatly by it.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JUNE 1, 1977 TO AUGUST 1, 1977

Northern CA Council of AV Societies	\$25.00
Granada Hills AVS, Northridge, CA. In memory of Mr. Paul Murray	5.00
Astro AVC, Houston, TX	5.00
Corpus Christi AVS, Corpus Christi, TX	25.00
Mrs. B. F. Gill, in lieu of speaker's fee from Ward Parkway Estates Garden Club, Kansas City, MO	5.00
Milwaukee AVS, Milwaukee, WI	25.00
Evening AVC, Des Moines, IA	10.00
Tustana AVS, Santa Ana, CA	5.00

BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND

Mrs. L. F. Lidiak
4503 Sinclair
Austin, TX 78756

".... Research requires years of work, extreme patience, and a life long devotion. On a project-by-project basis the chance of failure is much greater than the chance of success, but the successes are cumulative...."

The preceding paragraph is one that merits serious reflection. Being a layman who worked for more than two decades in a scientific community,

this basic concept of research took me some time to appreciate. How very easy it is to point to nematodes, thrips, mites, color break-through, etc., and say: "Let's find the remedy to that problem!" When a formalized program is launched the scientist as well as the layman hopes for the best; and, of course, tangible successes do occur. However, findings from one project plus a discovery from another in time may pyramid to supply an elusive answer. Who of us ever dreamed that the concentrated efforts made to produce the needed heat-resistant materials which would allow our space capsules to reenter earth's atmosphere would produce a side product used in every kitchen today — teflon?

Mr. Bilkey and Dr. Hildebrandt, authors of the statement in the first paragraph, cited 14 references as having been used in their work — in lay terms, they were trying "to put the pieces together"; as scientists they were seeking to make the successes cumulative.

• **Peter C. Bilkey, A. C. Hildebrandt, "African Violets and Tissue Culturing," AV Magazine, Vol. 30, #1, Jan. 1977, p. 23.**

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE FROM MAY 27, 1977 to July 26, 1977

Metropolitan St. Louis (MO) AVS	\$15.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Kilpatrick in memory of Doris Wilson	5.00
Potomac (VA) Council of AV Judges	10.00
Inglewood (CA) AVS in memory of Paul Murray	5.00
AVS of South Bay, CA, in memory of Victor Constantinov	10.00
AVS of South Bay, CA, in memory of Millie Blair	10.00
The AV Council of Southern California in memory of Paul Murray	5.00
Countryside AVC Madison, WI, in memory of Mrs. James A. Hamilton ...	5.00
Dazzling Deceivers AVC St. Paul, MN, in memory of Edna DeMers	5.00
Thimble AVS of Connecticut	10.00
Astro AVC, Houston, TX	5.00
Pomona Valley (A) AVS in memory of Lois Parker	5.00
AVS of East Texas	5.00
Tustana (CA) AVS	5.00
Rainbow AVC St. Louis, MO, in memory of Carolyn Ochs	5.00
Corpus Christi (TX) AVS	25.00
First AVC of Lake Charles, LA	10.00
Fleur de Lis AVC St. Louis, MO, in memory of Nora Chesney	5.00
Milwaukee (WI) AVS	25.00
AVS of Springfield, Delaware Co., PA	

in lieu of judging fees for:
 Mrs. Wallace Behnke, Mrs. Stanley Crewe,
 Mrs. H. N. Hansen, Mrs. David Grabosky,
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rolph,
 and James Klawitter 25.00
 Silvermine AVS (CT) 25.00
 Mrs. J. A. W. Richardson
 in lieu of AVSA Program Chairman,
 1977 Convention expenses 29.63
 AV Culture Club, Port Arthur, TX..... 25.00
 Windsor (CT) AVS in memory of
 Doris Wilson and Esther Bissell 25.00
 Evening AVC of Des Moines, IA 10.00
 Tampa (FL) AVS 60.00
 Tampa (FL) AVS in honor of
 Mrs. Russell I. Yawger, show judge 10.00
 San Mateo County (CA) AVS
 in memory of Victor Constantinov 5.00
 First AVS of Wichita Falls, TX 10.00
 AV Council of Southern California
 in memory of Dorothy Powell 5.00
 Long Beach (CA) AVS
 in memory of Dorothy Powell 7.50
 AVSA Judges Council of Southern California
 in memory of Dorothy Powell 20.00
 The AVS of Greater NY., Inc. 15.00
 Levittown (NY) AVS 5.00
 Upper Pinellas AVS, Largo, FL..... 50.00
 The Fort Worth (TX) AVS
 in memory of Mrs. H. D. Biles 10.00



THEY'RE WINNERS—Here are the top winners in the 11th annual show, "The History of African Violets", held by the First AVS of Wichita Falls, TX: (L to R) Mrs. Gordon Kilgore, Mrs. Donald Hargrove, Mrs. Michael Fall, and Mrs. Harold Mofatt. Mrs. Fall won the AVSA Best Collection Award, 'Granger's Starshine', 'Artic Mist', 'Firebird', won Queen of Show, 'Artic Mist', and more than 10 other awards. Mrs. B. T. Haws, (not pictured) was winner of the AVSA 2nd Best Collection, 'Baby Doe' (Kiesling), 'Apple Blossom Pink', (Tinari), 'Lime Crisp', (Champion).



AT SYRACUSE SHOW — Here are some of the winning plants at the Syracuse (NY) AVS show. Past AVSA President Cordelia Rienhardt won the award given by Past AVSA President Frank Tinari for 'Bicentennial Belle' (top photo), a Tinari introduction. Another of Mrs. Rienhardt's awards was the 2nd AVSA Collection Award (Purple Rosette) for her plants, 'Crimson Frost', 'Nancy Reagan' and 'Tina', (bottom photo).



(Photo by Grower)



**BIG
FLIRT**
by
**Irene
Fredette**



CORPUS CHRISTI — Howard Utz

(Photo by Sandra Leary)



The Plant



MINI FANTASY by Tinari

(Photo by
Frank Tinari, Jr.)

The Blossoms

YOUR LIBRARY

Harvey L. Stone
51 Peach Highlands
Marblehead, MA 01945



Where has the time gone? The first year after our Bi-Centennial is nearing an end. It hardly seems possible!

By now some of our affiliates have seen the new slide programs added to our library from the St. Louis Convention. "Third Time Around" features the top prize winners at the convention while "Gateway to Violets" features new introductions from our hybridizers. Let's all give St. Louis a round of applause for hosting our annual convention for the third time. Did you enjoy these programs? Hope you returned, or forwarded, the slides by first class mail immediately after your scheduled showing date, in accordance with the instructions enclosed, so that other clubs may enjoy them too.

Does your AVC or AVS publish a magazine or newsletter? Want to see how it compares with other related publications, including top prize winners at our St. Louis Convention? Now you can. Our Library offers a new service, available immediately, in addition to those listed on page 48 of the June 1977 issue of the AVSA Magazine. Edward Bradford, a member of the Publications Committee, is serving as a subcommittee chairman for affiliate publications. He has prepared library packets containing such sample issues. These are available, on request, for loan to any interested affiliate — from the AVSA Library, Knoxville office, for \$2 check payable to AVSA. If your organization does not publish a newsletter at present but is interested in starting one, this packet will be a helpful guide. Why not send for one now?

I am pleased to say that clubs in the Baltimore, MD area have expressed an interest in making up one or more Regional slide programs to be added to AVSA's slide library. We should have further information on this in a future magazine. Your comments about such programs would be appreciated.

After a record setting winter during which many violets were lost to the bitter weather, 1977 has seen a record setting summer in many parts of our country. This has caused us to lose even more

plants. I hope that by now you have ordered some new varieties and some of the older standbys, to replace your losses, from the ads in our AVSA Magazine and that they are well on the way to becoming show plants for the spring shows all over the land. Don't forget to groom a few for our 32nd AVSA Convention/Show in Austin, TX.

Would anyone be interested in having a cassette tape of the commentary available for any one of the slide programs in our library? I hope to have one available as a "pilot" program not later than our 1978 convention. It would eliminate the necessity of having someone read the typed commentary by flashlight or other portable lighting or even by the light in an adjacent room. It would be necessary, of course, for the projectionist to play the tape while projecting the slides in a "dry-run" before the meeting. If you have any thoughts or suggestions about this, please share them with us.

May your Holidays be happy ones!

Prices Changed!

Under AVSA Library in June 1977 magazine, page 48, the \$1.50 fee for slide programs should have read \$3.00 plus return postage for individual members and AVSA Affiliate organizations. Fee to non-members should have been \$6.00 plus return postage.

Packet fees have also been raised from \$1 to \$2.00 plus return postage. These changes became effective July 1.

FLUORESCENT LIGHTS

Most fluorescent lamps are rated to have a life span of 7,500 hours. If they burn an average of 14 hours per day, they have a life span of 535 days. However, they should be replaced when they reach 70% (373 days or one year) of their service expectancy because they are providing about 15% less light.

CROSS YOUR I's . . . and DOT YOUR T's . . .

Mrs. W. F. Anderson
360 Tulip Drive
St. Louis, MO 63119

Three years ago this column started in the November issue after a magazine workshop at convention when the group present affirmed that they would like information in the magazine on such subjects as definitions, terms, and pronunciation. A sentence from the first column can be repeated "Every AVSA member represents our society to the public and what each member does — good or bad — reflects an image of the society."

Since the society has many new members, one subject covered in that first column is emphasized again. After the society name has been given in full the first time it is used, thereafter it may be abbreviated to AVSA written in all capital letters without periods between the letters. In a publicity news release the full name should be given in the first mention and the public will understand the abbreviation used later. In affiliate yearbooks or newsletters, the abbreviation is acceptable and understood. Let's write it uniformly.

Let's present a uniform front also in the way we write African violet. Check the dictionary. The lower case letter is used when writing violet, African is always capitalized, and the words are not hyphenated. Some authors choose to write these words in different forms which causes confusion. Only when used in a title or as part of a society name are both words capitalized.

As a member of this society, set a good example. Promote the use of the proper form.

Unique Arrangement

"I have a unique arrangement for my violets that I constructed myself," says Sybil Bates, 4326 E. 17th Avenue, Denver, CO 80220.

"I have three shelves, eight feet long, four shelves 4 feet long, and four shelves 30 inches long. On each eight-foot shelf I made three round trays, 30 inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. I set these trays on rubber maid Lazy Susans.

"On the four-foot shelves I made the trays 20 inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep and have two to each shelf. The 30-inch shelves have one tray each, 27 inches in diameter.

"All the trays are on Lazy Susans which make



MACRAME SHELF — If building a shelf is your problem, then why not do a bit of macrame? Marty Hunter, 405 S. Travis, No. 7, Cleveland, TX 77327 fashioned this attractive shelf which is located in front of two windows in her apartment. Natural jute was used for the macrame hangers in which are suspended two 5½-foot shelves of plexiglass. She says these can be hung from 8 or 9-foot ceilings. A Grow-Bulb arc lamp is suspended about the shelves.

it easy to turn the violets under the lights. I line the trays with heavy duty plastic and cut circles of hardware cloth to cover the trays which are filled with water for wicking my violets. A twirl of a tray brings any violet within reach. I'm a jack-leg carpenter and this project was one of my own creations.

"Since 1970 when I started growing violets I've used these revolving trays and have enjoyed them very much."



THE REDHEAD — Annalee Violetry



From the largest to the smallest

Sink Basin 12" x 3½"
Lavender Delight
(Granger)

5" Pot
Lavender Tempest
(Granger)

3¾" Pot
Magic Splendor
(L. Lyon)

Miniature
Little Delight
(L. Lyon)



ILLINOIS WINNERS — Highest awards at the Metropolitan AVS show in Peoria, IL were won by Thelma Banquet (right) with her 'Sweet Mary,' best of show and best in horticulture; Emma Bessler (center) and her 'Irish Elf,' best miniature and Tri-Ribbon; and Maude Teaster, show chairman, (in background).

GROW 'EM LARGE IN JUST A YEAR

*Edythe M. Peeler
Hidden Lake, Rt. 2
Lawndale, NC 28090*

"I just can't believe it."

These words were repeated over and over again as people looked at our display of violets at the Southern Living Show in Charlotte, NC.

We had grown 15 violets — all of them large for the show. They ended up in Rubbermaid Sink Basins, 12" x 3½". The span of each violet was from 20 to 22 inches across the top.

And when we explained they were just starters one year ago, a viewer would remark, "I just can't believe it."

I'll admit it's not easy and requires work but the results are breath-taking.

The varieties we chose were well suited for growing in large containers. Among some of those shown were Rev. Charles Blades' 'The Parson's Delight', 'The Parson's Ruffles', and 'The Parson's Song', Granger's 'Lavender Delight', and the four pictured on page 52, Lyon's 'Little Delight' and 'Magic Splendor' and Granger's 'Lavender Tempest' and 'Lavender Delight'.

◆(Editor's Note: The four African violets pictured on page 52 were grown by Peeler's African Violets of Lawndale, NC to demonstrate that large plants can be grown from starters in just one year. Photo by Steve Coon)

A Teenager Speaks:

Violets Are for Everyone

*Carol Ann Miderski
945 Exmoor Avenue
Barrington, Ill. 60010*

Several years back my parents started raising African Violets. At first it was just a hobby but it gradually grew into a small business. Originally I couldn't understand their enthusiasm over what I considered to be "JUST A BUNCH OF PLANTS." Slowly but surely it must have rubbed off on me because I began to enjoy working in the plant house. I grew to love watching the little green sprouts in the soil grow into big, healthy, blooming plants. As I gained interest I graduated from pot washer, to divider, to helper, to experimenter until finally I had a hand in just about everything. For instance, I have just recently tried my hand at hybridizing and I am eagerly waiting to see what kind of results I get. Now, at age 15, I think I love working with the violets as much as my parents do. I guess you could say they've grown on me.

I went to the St. Louis AVSA Convention with my mother and we attended many of the workshops. I also attended the judging school and took the test. I felt that even if I didn't pass, it would be a good experience. Well to my surprise I did pass. But that's not the point. The point is that violets are for everyone, young and old, male and female. The problem is that most people do not realize how wide and interesting the field of violet growing is. It encompasses much more than first meets the eye. With African Violets there is always something new to learn and something different to try. It allows you to use your imagination. I believe that if more young people are convinced that African Violets are fun because they are easy to grow, that I will see many more of my generation at the next convention.

CORRESPONDENCE CLUB

Donna Clawson, one of the chairmen of the African Violet Correspondence Club, who lives in Johnstown, PA, suffered some damage to her home and the club's newsletter, "African Violets Come Chatting," was delayed. If information is needed about the club, write Yvonne M. Schenfield, 699 West Washington St., Bradford, PA 16701. Persons who have written to Mrs. Clawson are asked to write to Mrs. Schenfield since the Johnstown post office was flooded.

AVSA JUDGES, *LIFETIME JUDGES and †TEACHERS June 1, 1977

(These names have been carefully checked with the Knoxville office and Mrs. Ruth Carey, chairman of Shows and Judges. If your name is missing we are sincerely sorry. Please let us know.)

CANADA

Mrs. Jacqueline Agnew, 8 Smith St., Moncton, NB E1C-8G2
D Avery, 9717-116 St., Surrey, BC V3V-3Z8
Mrs. C. Y. Batchelor, 330 Claude Ave., Dorval, Que H9S-3B3
†*Mrs. C. W. Beattie, 283 Churchill Dr., Winnipeg, Man. R3L-1V7
Mrs. Christena Beukeveld, 63 Lefurgey Ave., Moncton, NB E1C-7G5
Mrs. J. A. Britten, 6314 Chebucto Rd., Halifax, MS B3L-1K8
Dorothy Duckett, 4024 Dewdney Ave., Regina, Sask. S4T-1A2
Mrs. Greta Durand, 1132 Lake Twintree Dr. S. E., Calgary, Alb. T2J-2T1
Mrs. R. A. Engstrom, 180 Halifax St. N., Regina, Sask. S4R-2W4
Mrs. Lola S. Gelbart, 81 Arden St., Moncton, NB E1C-4B6
Mrs. Phyllis Hall, Rt. 1, Penobsquis, NB E0E-1L0
Mrs. Leo Hutchinson, 622 Balmoral St., Saskatoon, Sask.
Mrs. M. Innard, 122 Regina Ave., Kenora, Ont. P9N-2Z7
Mrs. I. Jenkins, 286 Helmsdale Ave., Winnipeg, Man. R2K-0v9
Mrs. L. Kirik, R. R. 1, North Bay, Ont. P1b-8G2
Mrs. L. Knight, 436 Dalton St., Winnipeg, Man. R2X-2C6
Mrs. Murna A. Kosowan, 57 Davidson St., Barrie, Ont. L4M-3S1
Sue Lampkin, 1042 Falgarwood Dr., No. 97, Oakville, Ont.
Miss Sandra Lex, 70 Enfield Ave., Toronto, Ont. M8W-1T9
Mrs. Mabel Mlazar, Box 207, Ft. Quappelle, Sask. SOC-1S0
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Wasn't Tuned in on Violet's Wave Length 'Experienced Grower' Learns Something New

Miss Betsy Evans
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Last fall I received a small 'Tucson Trails' (a semiminiature trailer) to be grown as our club project and entered in the March show. From the very beginning I observed it seemed to have more than its share of curling leaves. I asked others what they thought might be causing it but everyone seemed as perplexed as I. In desperation I took it to one of our meetings to see if African violet judges could diagnose it after having seen the plant. No one was able to help me. As I had wicked it from the start I now removed it, thinking it was getting an over abundance of nutrients from the weak fertilizer solution in the reservoir. On January I began noticing many buds which made me hope I was doing something right. Also in January I thought there was a slight change for the better in the appearance of the leaves. By the time I entered it in the March 6 show there was very little improvement. But I kept hoping that perhaps one of the judges would take pity on my poor plant and finally tell me what I was doing wrong. No such luck! The buds refused to open, too, and finally shriveled up and died on the plant!

The first of April I felt I simply **HAD** to do something. Some of the remaining buds were beginning to drop off and the plant drooped and curled so that it looked like its best friend had died! I decided to wick it again in the hopes of assuring it enough water. Horrors upon horrors, I was unable to insert the wick! With all the pushing and not-so-gentle handling the plant fell out of the pot.

Here at last was the secret of the curling leaves and bud drop for that plant was so completely root bound you could not even see the soil! No wonder I couldn't get the wick in! So I repotted in fresh, loose porous soil and put some Vitamin B¹ in the reservoir (where the wick was dangling) to ward off transplant shock that these plants (this variety in particular) seem super sensitive to.

Several days later I noticed more buds (and leaves) were curling up but this was due to the transplanting I thought. The soil seemed rather dry so watered it with more Vitamin B¹ without thinking twice about it. A few days later I again noticed the plant looked terrible and the soil was

very dry... too dry for a wicked plant unless there was something wrong with the wick. Was my face ever red when I discovered it was bone dry... poor 'Tucson Trails' was suffering from a severe case of dehydration.

My yarn bag yielded a length of acrylic (NOT cotton) yarn which I had heard was an extremely good wicking medium. So I pushed that into the pot, letting one end drop in the Vitamin B¹ solution. Almost immediately I thought I could hear it gratefully sucking up the moisture.

To all you novice growers, I have been raising African violets for approximately 6 years but still feel I have much to learn even though some members of my society think of me as 'an experienced grower'. Don't hesitate to try some drastic steps for these delicate looking plants are a lot tougher than you might think. My family gazes at me in horror when I'm transplanting. For, instead of knocking the plant from the pot, I gently pull it out. Then I shake all excess dirt off the roots (thus exposing them), cut most of them off with a sharp knife (this helps to keep minis tiny and besides, believe it or not, they seem to love the attention), repot in fresh soil and water with Vitamin B . During the time I remove the plant it sets on the kitchen counter until replanting. And all my plants are thriving: 'Knee High' has 4 blooms and 2 buds; 'Mini Mignon' (another mini) has 4 buds, 'S. Ionantha' has 15 blooms and an unnamed variety has 23 buds. 'Tucson Trails' is beginning to look like a different plant and from this episode I have learned what severely curling leaves can indicate... in the above case, the plant was trying desperately to communicate with me... I just wasn't tuned into its wave length!

Do NOT send newly elected officers' names to the Editor. Send them to the Affiliate Chairman, Mrs. Wayne Schroeder, who lists them in the November Magazine.

Now She Wick Waters

Mrs. Mary J. Moore
1900 Harshman Road
Dayton, Ohio 45424

If everyone would share their enthusiasm of African Violets what new friends we might find! I was invited to a friend's home for dinner when I saw her African Violets. I was amazed at their enormous size and multitudinous blooms. She attributed her success to wick watering.

I bought the wicks at a local florist and ordered the pots from Texas. I was so excited that I couldn't wait to initiate my project. My plants previously were not great bloomers nor did they have lovely foliage. Today they are gorgeous after three months of wick watering. I bought the wicks which were expensive and they rotted giving me a new dilemma. I found 43-inch shoestrings at the five-and-dime for one-fourth the price and they have been conducive to their new found use. With wick watering you must check the reservoir so it never becomes dry. The water always contains a weak commercial fertilizer which seems to be the basic nutrient they previously needed. I do have a slight algae problem in the reservoir and on the wick.

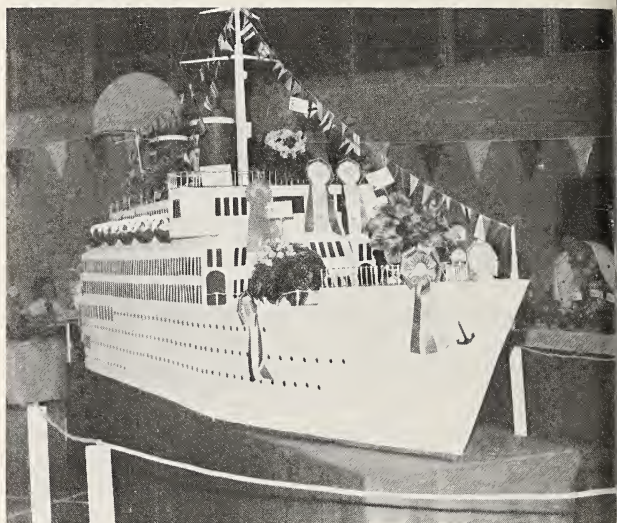
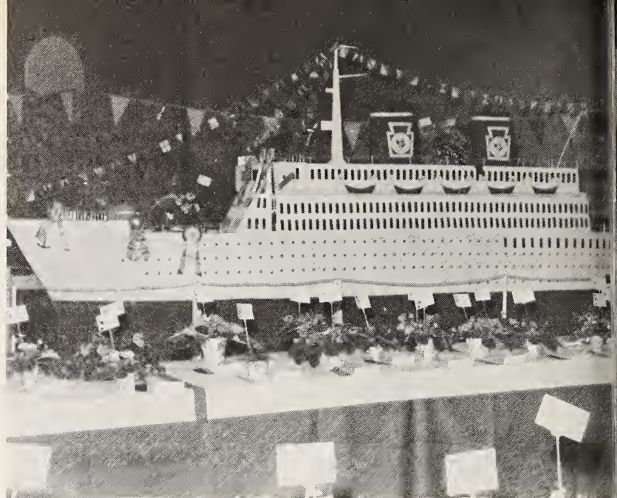
I like a challenge, so I bought a reduced violet which had never bloomed and it now has a lovely garment of 20 blooms. Even my 'Prayer Plant' (Maranta) has shown me its gratitude with new foliage.

AVSA RESEARCH

The first Research Committee of AVSA was appointed at the Philadelphia meeting in 1950. The first Research Fellowship was awarded to Richard Stinson, an Ohio State University student.

For Wick Watering

This is a hint from Mrs. Dale Andrews, 3830 Celina Lane, Waco, TX 76705 for African violet growers who use plant trays for wick watering: instead of hardware cloth, I suggest cutting down bread rack trays to fit, using diagonal cutting pliers, commonly known as dykes. These will snip them fairly easy. These plastic inserts do not have any sharp points that possibly could poke a hole in the container. They are washable and can be Cloroxed easily.



S. S. SAINTPAULIA — Here's the "SS Saintpaulia," a 20-foot cruise ship, designed and made by George Smith, which formed the theme of the third annual show of the AVS of Lower Bucks County, PA. The two photos show the ship as used at the show.



90th BIRTHDAY—Mrs. A. C. Poss celebrated her 90th birthday and was honored with a birthday party at her home in Russellville, AL. Because of her love for African violets, which she grows in abundance, her birthday cake was topped with a beautiful pink violet. Here she is shown with her cake and her two great grandchildren, David and Susan Vojticek.

BEGINNER'S COLUMN

Mrs. J. A. W. (Ann) Richardson
RR# 1, Box 70
Tavares, Florida 32778



Don't Just Stand There — Do Something

How often have you said that to a plant. Wouldn't you be surprised if the plant shouted back at you saying the same thing! A plant shows definite signs of its forthcoming demise long before it actually "kicks the bucket."

When a plant has grey, limp foliage often accompanied by glassy lower petioles which turn brown and rot off it is saying, "You are drowning me." Keep it up and the plant will do what I call "grow backward" because it gets smaller and smaller and then just gives up entirely. Repot it, giving heed to the rule of thumb that a plant should have a pot one third the diameter of its foliage. Remember that a loose soil is better than a dense one. Water it less than you did before. Keep it moist but not wet. In repotting with new soil, have a look at the roots. If they come off with the soil or if the tap root is brown when you scratch it with your finger you had better perform surgery. Scrape the tap root until you find green rather than brown. When it is all green, put it in a container with water such as a brown medicine bottle and keep the container full of water until it sends out new roots. Replant and this time be good to it.

If you follow the rule of buying only from sources in which you have confidence and if you isolate the plants until you are positive that they are healthy, you need not worry too much about insects or diseases. However, once in a while something will sneak through a window (even a screened one) or via other plants left nearby. Keep a wary eye for anything that doesn't look right. Anything that moves, cottony puffs in the axils or on leaves, white or brown streaks, pit-like scars on backs of leaves, silky cobwebs, brittle leaves, etc. should be investigated, identified and resolved. The "African Violet Handbook for Judges and Exhibitors" will help you to know what you have and how to treat it, as will articles in the *African Violet Magazine* (look at index).

Bleached leaves are usually caused by too strong light or lack of trace elements. For the latter try a

chelated fertilizer. Browning or yellowing of leaf edges needs patience to detect cause. If you are not already using it, try one-quarter strength diluted fertilizer for every watering. If you have been using one-quarter strength, try one-half strength. Remember that African violets do not react to changes overnight.

Soft spots which turn brown on leaf stems can usually be controlled by covering the edge of the pot with aluminum foil. For clay pots, dip in paraffin.

Plants with good, green foliage that do not bloom need stronger light. The plant will give you a hint by developing long petioles (stems).

Break The Insect Cycle!

Sandra Leary
2088 Illinois Ave., N. E.
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

You found mealybugs foraging on your best African violets. You sprayed them with a good dose of malathion, and now you can relax because you have taken care of that infestation . . . right? WRONG! You must follow up this spraying with another spraying or two at the correct intervals, that is, the number of days it takes that particular pest to complete its life cycle. Otherwise, the next batch of eggs, which were present when you sprayed the first time, but were not harmed by the spray as were the exposed adults, will hatch out, and lay more eggs. Then all your original efforts will have been wasted. You have only slowed then down, not gotten rid of them.

Mites must be treated every 5 to 7 days, soil mealybugs, every 10 days, thrips every 10 days, and leaf mealybugs every 5 days, for several treatments until their respective life cycles are broken.



A Foote on the Violet Path

By Grace Foote

The holiday season is just around the corner and right now I'm wishing my African violets would be in bloom around Dec. 25 so I can give some as Christmas presents. If they're not in bloom I'm going to have to be more careful in seeing that the right names are on the right plants. Recently I gave two small plants of 'Grace Foote' to a young teacher, **Marty Hunter**, in Cleveland, TX. She had just begun her violet collecting, so traded one of the plants for another variety with her friend, **Mrs. Tingle**, who operates **Tingle's African Violets**. When **Mrs. Tingle's** plant bloomed, it wasn't pink like **Marty's Grace Foote**. It was a deep purple — and turned out to be 'Country Music'. So see what can happen when the labels get transposed on plants that aren't blooming? . . . But if you don't want to give an African violet as a gift why not an AVSA Gift Membership? Think of the many friends and relatives on your Christmas list who would benefit from receiving our African Violet Magazine and enjoying all the AVSA benefits! . . . If you think we make a lot of typographical errors in our magazine, there's one I'm not guilty of. Here's the one that tops 'em all, which appeared in an area newspaper in referring to the election of officers of an African violet group. Here's how it read: "Election of officers was held by the African **Violence** Society". How's that for a boo-boo? . . . Have you had any plantnapping in your town? We've been reading newspaper articles about plant thefts being on the increase. What are the thieves doing with them? Here's what one florist said: "The plants may be the victims of plant stealing rings which peddle them in a black market. The market has developed because of the demand for plants and their value. Some people have tried to sell me plants for cash. They looked pretty dirty and drive beat-up vans. I don't know if the plants were stolen, but I wouldn't be surprised." So take good care of your African violets and if you have plants hanging outside watch them, too! "We AVSAers are lucky that our pet plant is one that stays indoors out of the clutches of passersby," says **Anne Tinari** . . .



While in St. Louis at the AVSA convention I met a most delightful young woman, named **Barbara Bole** of Tulsa, OK. She'd come to the convention to meet some of our judges, hybridizers and Commercial. She is in the preliminary stages of writing a book, which, she says, "will include all varieties from the 'Best Varieties' List for each year and varieties listed or hybridized in the last three years. If after I index them, I have room for more listings, I will select other varieties on a similar basis." . . . Our hat's off to **Mrs. C. A. Pickens** of Baton Rouge, LA. She organized or helped organize three AVSA Affiliates in one year — Violets After Five, Town and Country and Violets on the Bayou — and all are going great! . . . **Mary Boose**, owner and operator of **Heavenly Violets** in Trumbull, CT, still delighted over receiving the **Win Albright Memorial Award** for exhibiting one of **Irene Fredette's** Originals, '**Royal Hussy**', which was the best seedling at the St. Louis AVSA convention, /show. She brought along another plant, '**Abigail Adams**', too, but it was damaged so much on the plane she couldn't show it — but that isn't the end of the tale: Both plants were broken right up to the crown on the way home. "It was disheartening," Mary said, "but both have started to come back. Hope to enter both at the Nutmeg State AVS Show in November" . . . **Dottie Wilson** of the **Brazos Valley AVC**, 3900 Carter Avenue, Bryan, TX 77801 trying, to locate starter plants or leaves of '**Texas Picture**' and '**Kansas City Chief**'. . . **Mrs. Princess Bony**, Windsor Forest P. A., Portland Jamaica, wishing some charitable growers in the States would send her some leaves via air mail — doesn't make any difference what color or variety. She wrote, "I have succeeded in getting some spray from the USA but since the heavy restriction has been placed here on posting money out of the island, my purchasing has stopped. I am so desirous of getting some of those lovely varieties (red, blue, pink, white) you have over there. I do love the dear little plants and would be very grateful to any grower who would communicate with me." **Mildred Schroeder**, new Affiliates chairman, writing she's just back from a trek to Japan but not divulging whether she saw any African violets. But she did admit her new job is literally "a labor of love — blood, sweat and tears." But that's what it takes when you're an AVSA

columnist . . . **Dorothy Wood** of Fruita, CO has come up with a good suggestion and a complaint concerning "Coming Events." The suggestion is that we follow the date with the name of the State so a reader doesn't have to read the whole page or two to find a show in her locality. The complaint is this and here's her story: "I live halfway between Salt Lake City and Denver so looked in 'Coming Events' to see if I could find a show listed. I did in Utah. The show was to be held at the Garden Center. I wrote the SLC Chamber of Commerce for directions to the Garden Center. I received maps and brochures, but nary a mention of a Garden Center." So, please, you publicity chairmen sending in notices of "Coming Events," please put an address following show site and also town and state . . . **Sandra Leary**, AVSA treasurer, who recently moved from Austin, TX to St. Petersburg, FL, really thinking her Texas friends like her "real well." Members of the Lone Star AV Council presented her with an AVSA Life Membership as a remembrance gift prior to her departure. **Ann Richardson** calling our hand on having **Tom E. Toms** of Bossier City, LA winning awards for two AVSA Collections in the June Magazine when only one collection can be entered in a show by an individual. A checkup revealed he won the AVSA Best Collection Award (Gold Rosette) and the TubeCraft Award of a FloraCart with the same plants, 'Mary Morn', 'Tommie Lou', 'Dixie Dandy'. The 2nd Best AVSA Collection, (Purple Rosette) was won by **Diane Gribshaw** with 'Garnet Elf', 'B. Lisa', 'Orion'.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Thomas B. McKneely

AVSA members were saddened by the death of Dr. Thomas B. McKneely on August 9. Dr. McKneely was the husband of one of AVSA's newest Board of Directors, Myrtle McKneely. Dr. and Mrs. McKneely resided at 6135 Tompkins Drive in McLean, VA.

Dr. McKneely was author of the article, "Are You a Certified Pesticide Applicator?", which appeared in the September African Violet Magazine after his death. He had contributed other articles to the magazine over the years.

Mrs. Mary Garrity

AVSA Board of Directors and other AVSA members were grieved to learn of the unexpected death of Mrs. Mary Garrity at her home in Roslindale, MA on Sept. 9.

Mrs. Garrity, the mother of Florence Garrity, AVSA treasurer, was an enthusiastic grower of African violets and a number of years ago with the assistance of her daughter organized the

Trimount AVS. Miss Garrity served as its first president.

Mrs. Garrity was also a member of the Bay State AVS.

She has attended several AVSA conventions and it will be remembered that when Florence served as chairman of the Boston AVSA convention, Mrs. Garrity was unable to attend because of a broken hip.

Edward Chas. Bronson

Memphis recently lost one of its most loved African violet growers. Edward Chas. Bronson of 1506 Tuscany Way died August 2 at St. Joseph Hospital. He was an active member of Memphis and Shelby County AVS, Bluff City AVC, AVSA, Dixie AVS and GSN. Many will remember him in his wheelchair at the Atlanta Convention with his lovely wife, Loretta, in close attendance. He is also survived by his sons, Edward Chas. Bronson, Jr., Lafayette, IN and Kenneth James Bronson of Knoxville, TN, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bronson of Chicago, IL, a sister and two brothers. He loved people and African violets and faced his handicap with great courage. It was a privilege to know him.

Sara Lou Howard

The Montgomery (AL) AVS has suffered a great loss in the death of Sara Lou Howard, a charter member, who passed away July 29.

She was a longtime AVSA member and very generous with her time and knowledge in growing African violets. She was kept busy as a club speaker and was also an AVSA judge. She will surely be missed by Montgomery AVS members who said, "no one can fill her shoes."

Tampa Loses Three Members

The Tampa AVS has lost three highly valued members within the past nine months. Laurel Burke's death from cancer followed Cathy Granback's death from a heart ailment by just one month.

On August 11, Myrtle V. Warman died of a heart attack. A native of Michigan, she was well known throughout the area as a Commercial member for several years. She was also one of the founding members of the Tampa AVS. A great booster of membership in the local society and AVSA, she was credited with many new members among her customers. Her support and encouragement will be greatly missed by the Tampa AVS. Sympathy is extended to her husband and family.

TO OUR ADVERTISERS: ADS NEED SPACE TO BE LEGIBLE

Our thanks to those of you who wrote us or called us saying you liked our new type for your ads because it was so distinct and clear and made your ads stand out.

We regret that we had other calls expressing unhappiness because your ads had so much copy they were hard to read.

Has it ever occurred to you that ads need space to be legible?

When your copy sets up for a two-inch space and you've only ordered a one-inch ad, naturally, you're not satisfied with your ad. Same goes for a four-inch ad with enough copy for six inches.

We're sorry — but we're not miracle workers. So please watch your copy. An advertiser wanting definite specifications or proof in advance should contact a local advertising agency or type house and submit camera ready copy to the magazine. Due to tight deadlines we cannot submit advance proofs. We will endeavor to comply with your specifications as near as possible.

The new magazine look

Last issue was first to use the new type in the ads, this November issue will have the entire copy set with PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION replacing the old hot type linotype and the IBM Strike on methods that cannot keep up with the 88 pages and the 27,000 copies per issue.

AFRICAN VIOLET MAGAZINE ADVERTISING RATES

(Effective January 1978 issue)

SINGLE COLUMN 2-13/16" wide	RATE per inch	TOTAL
1"	\$15.00	\$15.00
2"	12.00	24.00
3"	11.50	34.50
4"	11.00	44.00
5" to 8½"	11.00 per col. inch	

ONE-FOURTH PAGE

1 col. x 4¼" or 2 col. x 2½" 47.50

ONE-HALF PAGE

1 col. x 8½" or 2 col. x 4¼" 90.00
9 to 15 col. inches 10.50 per col. inch

FULL PAGE

5⅞ x 8½" 160.00

Check made payable to AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY OF AMERICA must accompany ad copy. Agency commission and cash discount not allowed.

Pictures can be included at no extra cost. No copy or pictures can be returned. **NO PROOF SUBMITTED BEFORE PUBLICATION.** If proofs required submit camera ready copy.

DEADLINES: JANUARY ISSUE by Nov. 1.
MARCH ISSUE by Jan. 1. JUNE ISSUE by Apr. 1.
SEPT. ISSUE by July 1. NOV. ISSUE by Sept. 1.

All ads must pertain to African Violets

All ad correspondence and checks should be sent to:
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2088 Illinois Ave., N. E.
St. Petersburg, FL. 33703

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Hiwy. Bus. 81—287 N Decatur, TX 76234
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Violet Fantasia

Phone: (512) 494-7829

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We are grateful to all the people across the U.S. and Canada, who showed an interest in VIOLET FANTASIA by inquiries for lists, phone calls etc. We want to thank those of you who have become our valued customers, and promise all of you that we will continue our policy of prompt delivery of your orders, excellent packing, and reasonable prices.

In our 1978 Spring list, which will be ready by February, we will be offering an excellent assortment of African Violet varieties, both new and old.

We wish all of you a Happy Holiday Season, and the best of New Years.

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First Austin African Violet Society

A carefully researched, illustrated book by and for violet growers. Complete and concise, deals with every phase of violet culture and problems. Clever and helpful techniques for advanced growers as well as beginners.

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Write for quantity discount price list.

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Style "A" 4 1/2" Vertical Stake 500/\$7.90, 1000/\$14.50 ppd.
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Style "C" 6" Vertical Stake 100/\$5.00, 500/\$19.00 ppd.

Lifetime Labels: White only. **Thriftfree** available in white, green, orange, blue, pink, yellow, red. 5" Thriftfree available in lavender and above colors.

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Special Discount prices to dealers and clubs on 5000 or more.

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Plant Marvel AV Spray (All-purpose spray): 5-oz.	\$2.50
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Kelthane (Specific Mite Insecticide): 8-oz.	\$3.99
Peters AV Special (12-36-14) Plant Food: 1-lb.	\$3.80
Peters Variegated Special (5-50-17): 1-lb.	\$3.80
Ferto-Sticks (Dried Cow Manure) — 90 Sticks-\$1.65, 270 Sticks	\$3.95
Mag-Amp (7-40-6) (Slow release plant food): 1-lb.	\$3.75
Nature's Way AV Soil (We will bill you for shipping): 25-lbs. .	\$4.95
Nemagon-50 (Soil fumigants for nematodes): 4-oz.	\$3.25
Nemagon Granules (for nematodes) (Mix in soil): 1-lb.	\$3.45
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Micro-Mike & Lite (20 power) (Spot that mite)	\$9.98
Benomyl Fungicide (controls most fungus diseases): 1-oz. .	\$3.49
Ferbam (Fermate) (control soil fungus diseases): 3-lb.	\$6.98
African Violet Book (Helen Van Pelt Wilson) (Paper Back) .	\$5.98
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Thimble Pots 1 1/4" Diameter — (Green): 48/\$3.95, 96	\$7.85

Orchid Growing Supplies, Greensand, Ruhm' Phosphate, Super-Phosphate, Dolomite Lime, Leaf Mold, Bone Meal, Hybrotite, Charcoal, Soil Test Kits, Fluorescent Light Supplies, Etc.

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Bernard D. Greeson

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A gift membership in the African Violet Society of America, Inc., will bring year-long pleasure and a constant reminder of your thoughtfulness.

A special card, with a picture of a beautiful African violet in color, will be sent to inform new members that they will receive five issues of The African Violet Magazine and membership from March 1, 1978 through February 28, 1979 as your gift. As a special bonus, copies of the January issue will be sent to the first 100 new members.

\$6.00

Just fill out and mail this gift form and check to:

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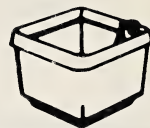
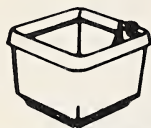
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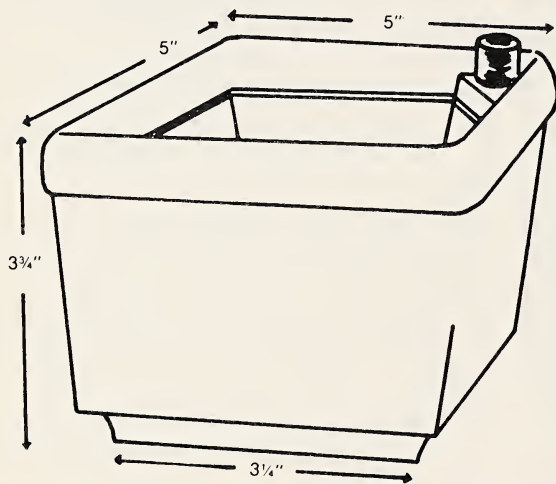
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Sign Gift Card _____

The House of Violets

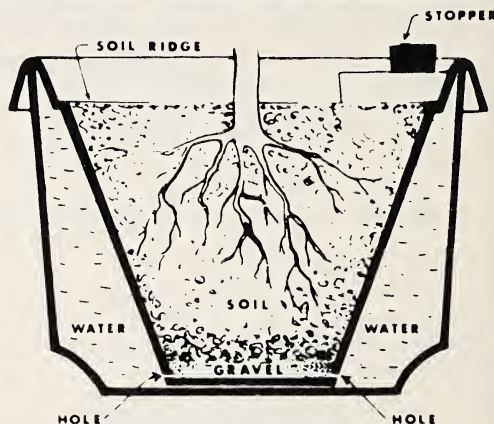


NOW: ORDER SWIFT "MOIST-RITE PLANTERS BY MAIL—IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!



Better Plants — Less Care! The Self-Watering Planter Designed for African Violets and Other Plants.

An automatic system designed to properly moisten soil. Nothing to deteriorate EVER!

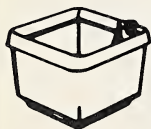


Large water storage allows long intervals between refills. (sometimes several weeks—depending on plant.)

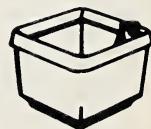
Small outlet holes near inside bottom edge allow plant to draw moisture as required.

ATTENTION: Do you sell African Violets and supplies? CHARLYNE REED wants to send you information on how to become a dealer. Send business card or letterhead for information.

The House of Violets



Charlyne and Ralph Reed
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8-oz.	Peters Violet Special 12-36-14	1.85
8-oz.	Peters Variegated Special 5-50-17	2.35
2-oz.	Superthrive liquid Vitamins — great for leaf propagation	1.89
8-oz.	Liquid Sturdy Brand 0-15-14 mix with fish fertilizer	2.98
16-oz.	Liquid Alaska Fish 5-1-1	2.25
8-oz.	Kelthane (miticide)	2.25
1-oz.	Carbonmate (Fermate)	.50
6-qts.	Perlite (coarse)	.70
4-qts.	Verlite no. 3 (crumb type)	.70
2-lbs.	Dolomite Limestone	.95
2-lbs.	Superphosphate	1.00
100	Stake labels — 6" white-sturdy	2.15
2 1/2"	Square or rd. plastic pots — 25 for	1.00
3"	Round plastic pots — 25 for	1.00
6"	Hanging Basket-White with saucer	ea. .90

Minimum order \$5.00

Please add \$1.75 for shipping up to \$11.99; \$2.75 up to \$24.99.
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Lets your plants water and fertilize themselves.

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CORRECTION: Through a typographical error in the September Magazine, the price of The Miracle Houseplants, The Gesneriad Family, was quoted as .25 instead of \$6.25 paperback (pp). This was no fault of the advertiser. (His price was \$6.25.)

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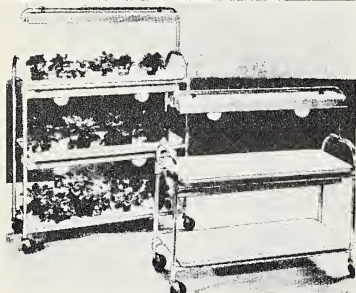
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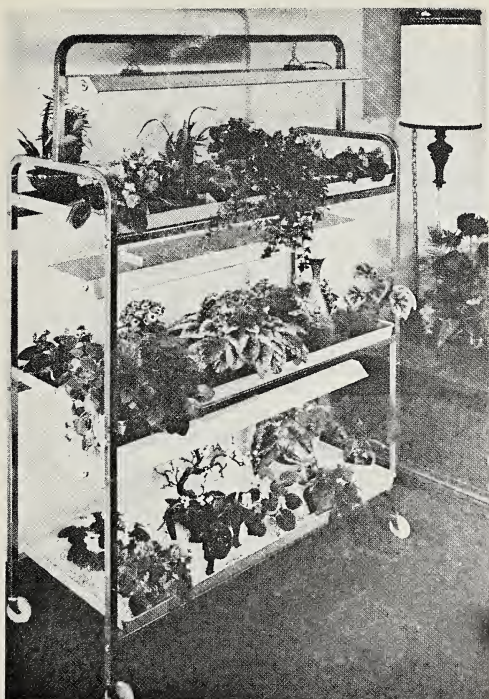
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24 Fumi-Soil Capsules \$2.35 - 100 Fumi-Soil Capsules	4.39
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Our 1977 variety list will be valid for walk-in customers through next February when the 1978 list will be available (still only 25¢ in spite of inflation).

Many thanks to all our old and new violet friends, happy holidays ahead, best wishes for successful 'violeting' in 1978 and hope we will again be able to serve you.

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B



C

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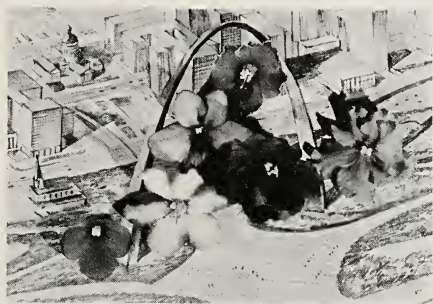
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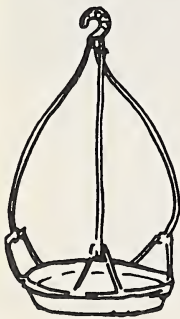
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4 1/2"	1.50	2.80	6.00	11.50	55.00	Round Tub or Square	White, Green
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6"	2.20	4.00	10.00	18.50	85.00	Round Tub or Standard	White, Green
6 1/2"	2.50	4.50	11.00	20.00	90.00	Round Tub	White, Green
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Makes an instant hanging basket out of any pot up to 6 1/2"

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Size	Color	10	20	50	100
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Size	Color	1	5	10
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8"	White or Green	1.25	6.00	11.00
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All with Saucers & Hangers

Violet House Potting Soil	2 gal.	1.00
Perlite	1 gal.	50*
Sphagnum Peat Moss	1 gal.	50*
Vermiculite	1 gal.	50*
Charcoal	12-oz.	89*
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Package 4" Plastic Marking Labels	(100)	1.50

WICK WATER

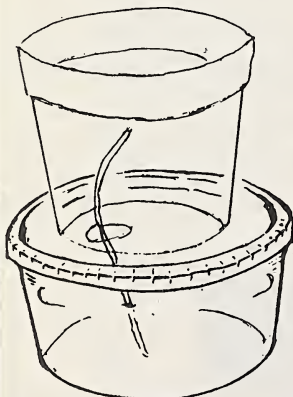
with

PLASTIC WATER RESERVOIRS (snap-on-lids)

Lids are recessed to hold pots.
Last 2 - 5 weeks.

16-oz.	32-oz.
20 for 4.25	20 for 7.75
50 for 9.25	50 for 17.75
100 for 16.50	100 for 33.00
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(Wicks not included)



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MINIMUM ORDER \$7.50
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Shipping charge 48 states, \$2.00; Canada, Alaska
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Please send Verilux TruBloom lamps as follows via prepaid delivery:

No. of Lamps	Watts	Length Inches	Base	Price per Lamp
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We have all standard sizes. Prices on other sizes on request. Quantity discounts available.

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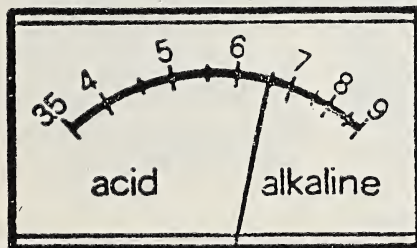
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Indicates the pH of your soil and water at a glance.

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Green - White - Black

Each \$2.35

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24 \$36.50



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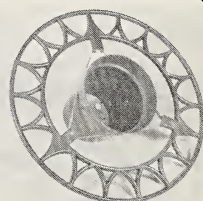
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High-analysis 15-30-15, instantly soluble. A high powered plant food. PLANT POWER is strong enough for outdoor plants yet formulated for African Violets and other house plants. Package makes gallons.



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"She worked at her plants until her strength could no longer sustain her and left several seedlings and seedpods with full instructions on their care for me," Mrs. Beck said. Mrs. Beck tried to carry on her mother's work, but her father, too, became ill and died in 1976.

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Department A

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Proton Station

Ontario, NOC ILO Canada



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(404) 231-0645

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We cater to the discriminating violet grower's every need with two national AVSA judges available for consultation. In addition to hundreds of violets, we carry Wonder Garden light stands, hand-painted ceramic pots, and a full line of potting supplies, including:

Allegro plant tonic, Peters fertilizers, Volkmann Brothers' AV soil

"Moist-Rite" planters, Violet rings, Plastic pots

Supplies shipped year round

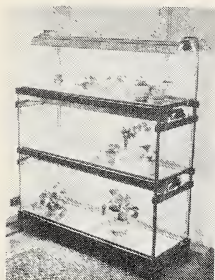
25¢ for complete list of plants and supplies

The varieties available in our shop fluctuate daily. It is impossible to keep all of our plants there. If you want specific plants, send us your list and date of planned visit, so we can collect them from the greenhouse. We will attempt to accommodate you in every way possible.

Merry Christmas!
Sue and Janet

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3 Level
40 Watt
Shown
49½" Long

Five models from 25½" to 49½" long.

Tray & fixture heights completely adjustable without tools. Convenient slide-out trays & fixtures. Made of gleaming aluminum & Redwood with or without fixtures & casters as desired. Save — Buy direct from maker!

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Popular accessory for your FloraCART. Or for any plant setup. Lightweight 21" aluminum wand dispenses water with pinpoint accuracy—no spilling, no breaking leaves! No heavy watering cans! Easy-operating positive-action valve. Complete with 8 feet of plastic hose and gallon plastic jug. \$19.95 each. In U.S. add \$1.25 shipping; in Canada \$1.50. Ohio residents add 5½% sales tax. Check, money order, Master Charge or BankAmericard (give card number). By the makers of FloraCART indoor greenhouse on wheels.

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WICKED FOR CONSTANT FEEDING

All Plastic 6" tall,	16-oz. capacity
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12	@ \$1.50 each
48	@ \$1.25 each
100	@ \$1.00 each

Add 10% for packing and shipping

PLASTIC WICKED STARTER TRAYS

14" x 22" x 3¼" Deep
with plastic pots



Tray and
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Tray and
11-4 oz. pots

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24-4 oz. pots

1 Pan and Tray	\$7.25 each
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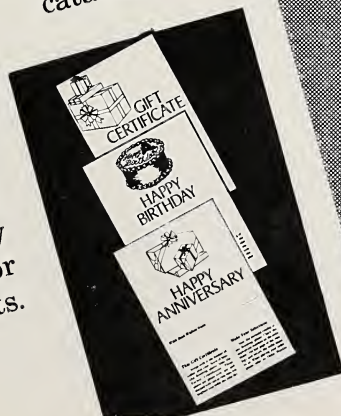


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Now in Paperback. New information on how to have blooms at windows or under lights. Culture of miniatures, scoring of show plants, other gesneriads, charts of troubles and cures. 29 photographs in color, 59 in black and white. 37 pages of line drawings.
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Jar
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Violet Jar

CERAMIC AFRICAN VIOLET PLANT JAR

In seven sparkling colors! To delight any Violet enthusiast. Solid glossy colors in violet, pink, blue, yellow, white, green, gray and black. (State second choice.) No 1 Jar—Handmade and hand painted in glossy ceramic with suitable space for four of your favorite plants. Proper drainage hole in bottom. Stands 5½" high and is approximately 5¾" in circumference. Please state type jar and color wanted. No. 1 or No. 2, \$3.75 each, ppd. SPECIAL: 2 jars for \$6.95 postpaid. **VIOLET JAR SAUCER**—Especially designed to set the above jars on, approximately ½" deep to hold excess water. Comes in same colors to match above jar. Please specify color. \$1.69 postpaid.

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African Violet Special: 12-36-14, 8 oz. carton \$2.25 postpaid

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Tinari

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Simulated sunshine is provided by the special wide spectrum grow lamp included in this decorative planter. Molded from practically indestructible lexan in beautiful avocado green. Height 15", Width 9", Depth 11½", Bowl Dia. 9".
\$19.95 postpaid



(This unit will not operate from a timer.)

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Large 16" diameter, 3¼" deep bowl with durable avocado green luxurious long-life finish. Reflector dome diameter is 17" and is 19" in height. Complete with Sylvania 22 watt Wide-Spectrum fluorescent circline tube. Can hold as many as one dozen 2¼" pots. Most attractive and beautiful for growing African violet plants. This unit will operate from a timer. \$29.95 ppd.



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—Handsomely durable, all metal fluorescent table lamp fixture, featuring gold top with black wrought iron legs. Complete with 2-20 watt gro-lux tubes, the new energy source for stimulating plant growth, (tray not included). Approximate size 24" high, 24" long and 13½" deep. May be used with a timer.
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AUTOMATIC TIMER—For use with fluorescent lights that have "rapid start" ballast. Capacity 875 watts. Can be set to go on or off automatically. \$9.95



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Ideal for growing African violets. Rugged lifetime construction of aluminum tubing. Beautiful molded fiberglass trays 19"x49"x1½", lightweight, strong and easy to clean. Shipped "knocked down" with complete instructions for assembly. May be operated with automatic timer. (Accommodates 48" tubes.)

Model BA—3 tray stand which includes three double light fixtures (no tubes are included), 3 trays, comes complete with casters for easy moving. Overall size: 68" high x 53" long x 19" wide.
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\$142.95 postpaid.

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PLASTIC TENTS

For Model CA—2 Tray—\$10.95 with FloraCart order, separately please add \$1.00.

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Send 25¢ for color catalog listing over 100 plant descriptions, lighting equipment, accessories, books and "Tinariums".

Prices subject to change.

SB
413
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Bot.

African Violet

Volume 30

Number 4

September, 1977



PART II OF II PARTS

The 1977 Master List of African Violets

Compiled by Adele Tretter, Plant Registration Chairman

*One Asterisk designates registered varieties.

**Two Asterisks designate varieties which have been listed incorrectly or a change of description.

***Three Asterisks are corrected registered varieties.

A

*ABOUT FACE - (3070) - 12/10/76 - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double ruffled deep orchid with a white edge. Plain quilted foliage. Standard.

ADIRONDACK TRAIL - (Lyon) - Double pink. Semitrailing type.

ADORABLE - (Swift's AV) - Light bluish lavender double. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

*ALTON DANDY - (3122) - 4/20/77 - (Mary Stewart) - Pink double. Quilted, tailored foliage. Standard.

AMETHYST SPARKS - (Champion) - White ruffled star with fuchsia markings. Light ruffled foliage. Standard.

AMIE MARIE - (Mrs. Heverling) - Double deep pink with fluted edges. Ruffled, pointed, plain foliage. Standard.

*ANDROMEDA-I - (3024) - 11/6/76 - (Lyn D. Robinson) - Dark pink star slightly darker edges. Plain foliage. Standard.

ANGEL'S STAR - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Single pink star with a white edge. Plain foliage. Standard.

ANNA - (See Ballet Anna)

ANNIE MAE - (C & R Reed) - Double blue. Dark green red backed foliage. Standard.

ANITIQUE CORAL - (Champion) - Double deep coral. Variegated tailored foliage. Standard.

APPLE BLOSSOM - Pale pink semidouble with darker edges. Plain foliage. Standard.

APPLE BLOSSOM - (See Tennessee Apple Blossom)

APRIL SNOW - (Swift's AV) - Pale peach (almost white) semidouble star. Dark tailored foliage. Pointed leaf. Standard.

*ARLINGTONAIRE - (3143) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble light lavender two tone. Plain scalloped pointed foliage. Large.

*'ARPEGGE' MINUET' - (3009) - 9/22/76 - (Mrs. A. Belanger) - Double fringed pink. Variegated pointed foliage. Standard.

AUGUST BRIDE - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double deep pink. Quilted, plain foliage. Standard.

B

BABY GIRL - (J. S. Miller) - Double white star. Girl foliage. Miniature.

BALLAD OF BLUE LUMIERE - (Mrs. C. R. Ballard) - Double blue with pink bloom. Variegated foliage. Large.

BALLAD OF DIXIE - (3026) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white star with red splashes or edges. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*BALLERINA - (3121) - 4/20/77 - (V. E. Ballirano) - Double medium pink with a darker edge. Scalloped foliage, slightly pebbled. Standard.

*BALLET ANNA - (2890) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single fringed rose two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.

*BALLET CRISTINA - (2891) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single to double medium blue. Quilted foliage. Standard.

*BALLET ERICA - (2892) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single to semidouble purple. Quilted scalloped foliage. Standard.

*BALLET EVA - (2893) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Semidouble purple two tone. Quilted foliage. Standard.

*BALLET HEIDI - (2894) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single purple two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.

*BALLET HELGA - (2895) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Semidouble purple two tone. Quilted foliage. Standard.

*BALLET INGE - (2896) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single fringed purple. Plain scalloped foliage. Standard.

*BALLET KARLA - (2897) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single fringed purple two tone. Plain scalloped foliage. Standard.

*BALLET LISA - (2898) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single to semidouble fringed purple. Plain foliage. Standard.

*BALLET MARTA - (2899) - 9/30/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single to semidouble fringed violet two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.

*BALLET META - (3000) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single violet. Quilted scalloped foliage. Standard.

*BALLET ULLI - (3001) - 9/20/76 - (Arnold Fischer) - Single fringed victoria violet. Plain scalloped foliage. Standard.

BEAUMONT - (C & R Reed) - Semidouble purple. Dark serrated foliage. Large.

BERYL CHILDS - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single blue and white two tone. Standard.

BETCHA - (3144) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Double white with a wine edge. Ruffled foliage. Standard.

BETTY - Pale pink single star. Ruffled dark foliage. Standard.

BETTY HOWELL - (Volkman) - Semidouble pink bloom. Plain foliage. Standard.

*BICENTENNIAL ROSE - (3113) - 2/26/77 - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double deep rosy pink. Longifolia, ruffled, ovate and pointed foliage. Standard.

*BICENTENNIAL TRAIL - (2882) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Double deep pink star. Plain semitrailing foliage. Standard.

- *BIG LEAGUE - (3027) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double medium blue. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.
- *BIG SUE - (3123) - 5/2/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Smith) - Semidouble royal purple star. Quilted, ovate foliage. Standard.
- BIG RED - (Ronn Nadeau) Dark red semidouble star. Standard.
- BIRDIE - Full double plum-orchid with dark slightly wavy foliage. Standard.
- *BLEEDING HEART - (3115) - 3/9/77 - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Semidouble white star with red-orchid splotches. Quilted, scalloped girl foliage. Standard.
- *BLUE BENDER - (3072) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Semidouble dark blue with a white edge. Plain foliage. Large.
- *BLUEBERRY FROST - (3150) - 5/28/77 - (C. Wilson) - Double blue with a geneva edge. Quilted foliage. Standard.
- BLUE BURMA - Double blue on plain olive foliage.
- BLUE CHIPS - (See Vern's Blue Chips)
- BLUE DANDY - (Lyon) - Full double wisteria blue bloom. Flexible semiminature.
- BLUE HALO - (Granger G) - Double blue-lavender with a white edge. Ruffled dark green foliage.
- BLUE HEAVEN - (See Vern's Blue Heaven)
- BLUE JAY - (Volkmann) - Semidouble dark blue with dark green foliage. Standard.
- *BLUE MARINER - (3096) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double fringed light blue. Ruffled pointed foliage. Standard.
- BLUE MOOD - (C & R Reed) - Slightly fringed semidouble blue bloom. Medium green foliage. Standard.
- BLUE MOON - (See Tennessee Blue Moon)
- BLUE ROSES - (Swift's AV) - Double medium blue. Dark green foliage. Standard.
- BLUE THUNDER - (Lyon) - White flecked double blue. Semiminature girl foliage.
- BLUSH DUCHESS - (Swift's AV) - Double blush pink. Quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.
- BUTTERSCOTCH - (Swift's AV) - Pale blush pink two tone semidouble star. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.
- BOLD ADVANCE - (Lyon) - Double fuchsia with white edges. Dark green foliage. Semiminature.
- BOLD ROSIE - (C & R Reed) - Deep pink full double. Medium green foliage. Standard.
- *BOMBAY RED - (3073) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double wine with dark purple tips. Plain foliage. Large.
- BRADLEY - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble plum star. Quilted medium green foliage. Standard.
- BREEZY BLUE - (Lyon) - Trailer. Double blue improved Violet Trail.
- BRIDAL TRAIL - (E. Fisher) - Large blush pink medium trailer. Medium to dark foliage. Standard.
- BRIGHT BUTTERFLY - (Champion) - Double dark pink, with variegated foliage. Standard.
- *BRIGHT EYED DONNA - (3119) - 4/13/77 - (C. D. Martin) - Single rose pink. White eye and rays. Quilted foliage. Standard.
- BUFFY - (Lyon) - Double white semiminature. Tailored foliage.
- C
- *CALIFORNIA - (3151) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single purple on quilted foliage. Semiminature.
- CAMDEN BLUE - (Swift's AV) - Slightly ruffled dark foliage. Double ruffled bloom with some white. Standard.
- CAMEO QUEEN - (See Granger's Cameo Queen)
- CANDY DANDY - (Lyon) - Double white with red edges. Holly foliage. Semiminature.
- *CANDY LOVE - (3097) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Semidouble light pink with a white edge. Ruffled pointed foliage. Standard.
- *CANTON STAR - (3089) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Single dark blue star. Plain ruffled foliage. Standard.
- CARE DEEPLY - (Lyon) - Rose-pink double. Pebbly semiminature foliage.
- *CARLA - (3132) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double deep pink on ruffled foliage. Standard.
- *CAROL - (3002) - 9/20/76 - (Max Maas) - Double fringed lavender pink. Quilted, ruffled foliage. Standard.
- *CASTLE'S PINK MEASURE - (3124) - 5/9/77 - (V. C. Fuhlrodt) - Double medium pink. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *CASTLE'S RED STONE - (3125) - 5/9/77 - (V. C. Fuhlrodt) - Semidouble fuchsia red bloom. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *CASTLE'S RUSTIC CHARM - (3126) - 5/9/77 - (V. C. Fuhlrodt) - Double ruffled mahogany brownish red bloom. Ruffled dark green foliage. Standard.
- CASUAL CLASSIC - (Lyon) - Double white, usually with pink stripes. Standard.
- CATHERINE LYNDIA - (E. Fisher) - Single two tone red star. Plain quilted foliage. Standard.
- CAT'S MEOW - (Swift's AV) - Fuchsia semidouble white edged star. Slightly ruffled dark foliage. Standard.
- *CECELIA - (3133) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double blue two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *CHATTERBOX - (3028) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Single pink with rose center. Plain, pointed foliage. Large.
- CHERI FROST - (Lyon) - Fuchsia red double stars. Dark Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.
- *CHEROKEE FIRE - (2883) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Plain Tommie type variegation. Standard.
- CHERRY MINT - (See Shomee Cherry Mint)
- CHERRY PARFAIT - (Champion) - Cherry pink and white ruffled double. Variegated ruffled foliage. Standard.
- *CHINESE DAWN - (3021) - 10/26/76 - (C. D. Leppard) - Double orchid two tone. Quilted foliage. Large.
- *CHINESE MIDNIGHT - (3022) - 10/26/76 - (C. D. Leppard) - Double fringed deep royal purple star. Quilted, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.
- CHIP - (E. Fisher) - Fluffy double fringed two tone blue with chartreuse. Medium green wavy foliage. Standard.
- *CHRISTY LOVE - (2884) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Double coral star. Wavy foliage. Standard.
- CHRISTINE DIANNE - (E. Fisher) - Single deep reddish pink star. Dark plain foliage. Standard.
- CHRISTOPHER HOWARD - (E. Fisher) - Single fringed bluish purple. Supreme serrated foliage. Standard.
- CLASSIC PINK - (Granger G) - Full deep pink double. Standard.
- CLASSY KITTY - (Lyon) - Crinkly edged double pink. Tailored foliage. Standard.
- *CLOUD BANK - (3074) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double white. Plain foliage. Large.
- *COLORADO - (3152) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single purple-red on quilted foliage. Standard.
- COLORADO BEAUTY - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double lavender two tone. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.
- COMMANDO - (Lyon) - Dark purple-blue semidouble stars. Red backed tailored foliage. Standard.

*CONCHITA - (3138) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Single pink two tone. Quilted girl ovate foliage. Miniature.

*CORPUS CHRISTI - (3075) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Semidouble pale pink star with dark ruffled edge. Plain foliage. Large.

COTTON BOWL - (Swift's AV) - Fluffy white double. Slightly ruffled foliage. Large.

COUNTRY CHARMER - (Lyon) - Double white with frilly purple edges and centers. Semiholly foliage. Standard.

COURAGE - (See The Parson's Courage)

CRIMSON GLOW - (Tinari) - Single wavy lavender with crimson and white markings. Pointed foliage. Standard.

*CRITERIA - (3029) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double medium pink star. Plain, quilted and ovate foliage. Standard.

CRISTINA - (See Ballet Cristina)

CRUNCHER - (Lyon) - Double purple-blue bloom. Dark semiminiature girl foliage.

CRYSTAL ELEGANCE - (Mrs. F. Huebscher) - Double frilled purple bloom. Dark green slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

D

DANCING DANA - (J. S. Miller) - Double medium purple. Ruffled girl foliage. Miniature.

DANNY BOY - (See Swanee Danny Boy)

DASHEEN - (Chrysler's) - Wisteria blue semidouble two tone. Medium green serrated foliage. Standard.

DEBBIE - Single white and purple. Light ruffled foliage. Standard.

*DELAWARE - (3153) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single purple-red star. Quilted foliage. Semiminiature.

DENISE - (See Rhapsodie Denise)

DENVER DELIGHT - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double pink. Small strawberry foliage. Small standard.

DENVER JO - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double deep pink. Plain, pointed foliage. Small standard.

DEEP PINK MIRIAM STEELE - (Chrysler) - Deep pink sport of Miriam Steele on plain foliage. Standard.

DIANA LYNN - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble two tone violet star. Medium green plain pointed foliage. Standard.

*DIRTY FACE - (3098) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Semidouble light pink with green stripes. Ruffled pointed foliage. Standard.

*DONNA - (3076) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double lavender two tone dark purple tips. Plain foliage. Large.

DREAM WEAVER - (Lyon) - Dark fuchsia semidouble stars. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

DRIVEN SNOW - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble white on ruffled dark foliage. Standard.

DUCHESS BLUE - (Swift's AV) - Medium blue semidouble to double. Dark tailored quilted foliage. Large.

DUTCH SKIES - (Swift's AV) - Double white and light blue bloom with a slightly fringed edge. Dark quilted foliage. Standard.

E

EDITH WINGATE - (Seth Paull) - Light blue on plain dark green foliage. Semiminiature.

ELIZABETH KAREN - (Wood's AV) - Double light pink bloom. Plain strawberry foliage. Standard.

*ERIC - (3014) - 9/30/76 - (Maas) - Double fringed purple. Quilted foliage. Standard.

ERICA - (See Ballet Erica)

ERMINE - (Swift's AV) - Double white hint of lavender fringed edges. Ruffled medium green foliage. Standard.

EVA - (See Ballet Eva)

*EVELYN BEAIRD - (2889) - 9/13/76 - (Norma M. Betty) - Semidouble lavender with white edge, usually with lavender center. Longifolia, quilted, ruffled and pointed foliage. Standard.

F

*FALBA - (3077) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double white, plain foliage. Large.

*FATIMA - (3128) - 5/20/77 - (G. R. Beck) - Single fringed pale pink with orchid markings. Plain scalloped foliage. Standard.

FESTIVE - Blue semidouble star. Standard.

*FESTIVE RED - (3099) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Semidouble red with a white edge. Quilted ruffled foliage. Standard.

*FIRE CHIEF - (3140) - 5/27/77 - (D. Buttram) - Semidouble cerise edged in green. Quilted foliage. Large.

FIRE FIGHTER - (Joanne Steffen) - Double brilliant fire red. Plain foliage. Standard.

*FIRST SHOW - (2877) - 8/9/76 - (A. F. Hill) - Double white. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

FLAMINGO - (See Swanee Flamingo)

FLASH - (See Vern's Flash)

FLAWLESS - (Swift's AV) - Dark lavender with some purple tips. Tailored scalloped foliage. Standard.

*FLORIDA - (3154) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single medium purple on quilted foliage. Standard.

*FORREST MIST - (3025) - 11/6/76 - (Lyn Robinson) - Double fringed medium pink with green edges. Scalloped, pointed foliage. Standard.

*FORTY-NINE TRAIL - (3134) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double blue on plain foliage. Standard.

FRANKIE - (Maas) - Deep blue double. Dark foliage. Standard.

*FREDETTE'S SUGAR BLUES - (3094) - 2/22/77 - (Irene Fredette) - Semidouble bright blue with white edge. Quilted variegated foliage. Large.

*FREEDOM SONG - (3141) - 5/27/77 - (D. Buttram) - Double dark purple with white edges. Quilted foliage. Large.

FREEDOM TRAIL - (Lyon) - Double fuchsia. Dark flexible trailer foliage.

FREE N' EASY - (Lyon) - Fuchsia semidouble, deep green tailored foliage. Standard.

FRENCH BLUE - (Swift's AV) - Double light blue, slight white edge. Dark tailored, quilted foliage. Standard.

FOREGO - (Lyon) - Semidouble pink stars. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

FRENCH LACE - (See Vern's French Lace)

*FRILLY LACE - (3100) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double fringed lavender two tone. Ruffled foliage. Standard.

G

*GARY - (3129) - 5/20/77 - (G. R. Beck) - Double fringed dark purple and magenta. Glossy ruffled foliage. Standard.

GATEWAY CHARMER - (Swift's AV) - Light wine purple double. Slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

GAVIN DOUGLAS - (E. Fisher) - Double two tone coral pink. Medium green plain foliage. Standard.

*GENE'S PRIDE - (3095) - 2/22/77 - (Irene Reinhold) - Double medium blue with a white edge. Ruffled pointed foliage. Standard.

GENESSEE SILHOUETTE - (Tinari) - Fuchsia lavender semidouble. Dark green serrated foliage. Standard.

*GEORGIA - (3155) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single pink on plain foliage. Standard.

*GLEN H - (3003) - 9/20/76 - (Maas) - Double dark blue star. Plain pointed foliage. Standard.

*GOOD MORNING - (3030) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double medium rose pink. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

GRANADA - (See Granger's Granada)

*GRANDDAD - (3120) - 4/14/77 - (Wanda McPeters) - Double dark blue with a white edge. Scalloped variegated foliage. Semiminiature.

*GRAND-SON - (2878) - 8/9/76 - (A. F. Hill) - Double red. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S CAMEO QUEEN - (2863) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double buff white. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S GRANADA - (2864) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double reddish orchid with deeper tips. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S JIM DANDY - (2865) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double dark blue, purple markings. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S LAVENDER BELLE - (2866) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double lavender. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S MONACO - (2867) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double white with wide blue border. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S PINK FASHION - (2868) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double medium pink. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S PINK NIMBUS - (2869) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double light pink with a white edge. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S RED FLAME - (2870) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double red violet. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S RED GOLD - (2871) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double red violet. Plain, variegated, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S RED KNAVE - (2872) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Bright red violet. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S REGALAIRE - (2873) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double dark blue, white edge. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

GRANGER'S REGINA - (Granger G) - White double with some mauve. Plain quilted leaves. Standard.

*GRANGER'S STARBURST - (2874) - 7/31/76 - (Granger) - Single deep pink star, cerise red eye. Quilted, ruffled foliage. Standard.

*GRANGER'S SYLVAN BLUE - (2875) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double fringed light to medium blue. Plain, quilted. Standard.

*GRANGER'S WILDFIRE - (2876) - 7/31/76 - (Granger G) - Double fringed red violet with a white edge. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

GRENOBLE - (Granger G) - Semidouble pale lavender with a orchid border. Standard.

GYPSY TRAIL - (Lyon) - Double light rose-pink bloom. Trailer.

H

*HALF MOON BAY - (3130) - 5/20/77 - (G. R. Beck) - Semidouble ruffled medium pink two tone. Plain ruffled foliage. Standard.

*HAMMOND'S TERRY LYNN - (3165) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double light pink on plain quilted foliage. Standard.

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY - (3069) - 12/10/76 - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Semidouble fringed lavender two tone. Quilted ruffled foliage. Standard.

HAPPY TRAILS - (Lyon) - Semiminiature trailer. Double light fuchsia blooms.

HEARTBREAKER - (Swift's AV) - Pale pink double, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

HEART THROB - (Swift's AV) - Rose double slight geneva edge. Quilted, scalloped slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

HEAVENLY HALO - (Champion) - Double fuchsia and white ruffled star. Light spooned foliage. Standard.

HEIDI - (See Ballet Heidi)

*HELENE - (2885) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Double deep fuchsia red star. Quilted foliage. Standard.

HELGA - (See Ballet Heiga)

*HENRIETTA WILSON - (3071) - 12/10/76 - (L. F. Wilson) - Double sky blue. Plain foliage. Standard.

HIGH CLASS - (Swift's AV) - Light pink double. Light green ruffled foliage. Standard.

HIGH STYLE - (Lyon) - Mottled blue and white semidouble stars. Holly foliage. Standard.

HONEY GIRL - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Double ivory pink, pointed, dark green foliage. Standard.

HONOR - (See The Parson's Honor)

HUMPTY DUMPTY - (Joanne Steffen) - Double white miniature. Small slightly serrated foliage.

HYPNOTIZE - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble red. Tailored foliage. Standard.

I

*ILLUMINATION - (3031) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double pale pink star, deeper center. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

INGE - (See Ballet Inge)

*IRISH DUDE - (3102) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double fringed white with lavender markings and green edge. Ruffled foliage. Large.

IT'S-A-GIRL - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single violet shaped reddish pink. Girl foliage. Standard.

J

JANA GAIL - (E. Fisher) - Single and semidouble light pink with chartreuse edge. Plain quilted foliage. Standard.

*JANEY BRISCOE - (3127) - 5/18/77 - (Jodi Davis) - Double two tone pink. Plain, quilted and sometimes cupped up. Standard.

*JASON - (3004) - 9/20/76 - (Maas) - Double fringed deep raspberry pink, blue overcast. Quilted, ruffled foliage. Standard.

JEANNE - (Volkman) - Dark blue star on tailored foliage. Standard.

JEFFREY THOMAS - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble two tone magenta, tinged chartreuse. Plain foliage. Standard.

JENNIFER LYNN - (E. Fisher) - Fluffy double pink with dark notched girl foliage. Standard.

JET TRAIL - (Lyon) - Full double wisteria blue. Semitrailer.

*JEWEL STAR - (3101) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Single red with lavender edge. Quilted foliage. Standard.
 JIM DANDY - (See Granger's Jim Dandy)
 JIMMY CARTER - (Ronn Nadeau) - Semidouble red star. Standard.

K

KAREY - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble medium pink star with fuchsia band. Emerald green pointed foliage. Standard.
 KARIA - (See Ballet Karia)
 KEITH JAMES - (Fisher) - Dark fuchsia semidouble star. Strawberry foliage. Standard.
 *KIRA - (3078) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double lavender, dark purple tips. Plain quilted foliage. Large.

L

LACE - (See The Parson's Lace)
 *LADY JANE - (3067) - 11/26/76 - (F. D. Delly) - Double lilac. Plain, quilted foliage. Large.
 *L'AMOUR - (3032) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double rose pink. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.
 LAVENDER BELLE - (See Granger's Lavender Belle)
 LAVENDER CREAM - (See Shirlee's Lavender Cream)
 *LAVENDER JEWEL - (3103) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Semidouble lavender. Quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.
 LAVENDER PEAK - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single lavender star. Standard.
 LAVENDER STEEL - (Ronn Nadeau) - Semidouble lavender star. Standard.
 *LAVENESQUE - (3033) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double to single aster violet with a deeper center. Quilted pointed foliage. Standard.
 *LEDLEY COX - (3010) - 9/27/76 - (Mrs. J. G. Barnhill) - Double purple with white edge. Plain foliage. Standard.
 LIGHT PINK STEEL - (Granger G) - Semidouble light pink Miriam Steele. Tailored foliage.
 LINDA LEE - (Ronn Nadeau) - Dark blue and white two tone. Variegated foliage. Standard.
 LISA - (See Ballet Lisa)
 *LITTLE BOY BLUE - (3063) - 11/23/76 - (Mrs. J. S. Barnhill) - Single medium blue. Tailored foliage. Semiminiature.
 *LITTLE CHARM - (Lyon) - Double pink miniature with dark tailored foliage.
 LITTLE DELIGHT - (Lyon) - Double white with a penciled purple edge. Glossy semiminiature foliage.
 LITTLE DOLLY - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble deep pink with dark foliage.
 *LITTLE JIM - (3005) - 9/20/76 - (Maas) - Double medium pink. Plain, pointed foliage. Semiminiature.
 LITTLE JOE - (Wood's AV) - Single royal blue star. Medium green foliage. Standard.
 LITTLE LOU - (Lyon) - Deep purple-blue full double, semiminiature Tommie Lou variegated foliage.
 LITTLE LULU - (Lyon) - Rosy pink full double, semiminiature red backed Tommie Lou variegated foliage.
 LITTLE MISS MUFFET - (Joanne Steffen) - Semiminiature single blue Geneva star. Serrated foliage.
 LITTLE PAMMY - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Bright medium pink semidouble. Plain variegated foliage. Standard.
 LITTLE PINKIE - (J. S. Miller) - Double pink star. Plain foliage. Miniature.

LITTLE RASCAL - (Lyon) - White edged double star above dark miniature foliage.
 *LITTLE RED - (3006) - 9/20/76 - (Maas) - Single bright red. Quilted foliage. Miniature.
 LITTLE SAINT LOUIE - (Joanne Steffen) - Semiminiature double purple. Plain variegated foliage.
 *LITTLE SOFTIE - (3116) - 3/24/77 - (E. H. Hammond) - Single fringed light pink two tone. Plain pointed foliage. Small standard.
 *LIZA T. - (3062) - 11/18/76 - (Mrs. G. Kinne) - Single white. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.
 LIZETTE - (E. Fisher) - Single and semidouble powder blue stars. Quilted pointed plain foliage. Standard.
 *LIZZY MAE - (3058) - 11/15/76 - (J. H. Smith) - Double pink two tone. Plain, variegated foliage. Standard.
 LORA LOU - (Lyon) - Full double rosy pink. Semiminiature trailing Tommie Lou type foliage.
 LOVE AFFAIR - (Mrs. Kiesling) - Semidouble white and pink star. Pointed girl leaf. Standard.
 *LUCILLES DELIGHT - (3034) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white, splashed with pink. Plain, supreme ovate foliage. Standard.
 LUCKY LOU - (Lyon) - Semitrailing double blue. Tommie Lou variegated foliage.
 *LUSH BLUSH - (3145) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble rose two tone. Plain quilted foliage. Large.
 LUV - (Lyon) - Rosy pink double camellia type flowers. Often with blue splashes. Dark foliage. Standard.
 LYNDIA SUE - (E. Fisher) - Double rose pink with cream edge. Plain foliage. Standard.
 LYNN RENEE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Pink double bloom. Variegated foliage. Standard.

M

*MAAS' VARIEGATED GORGEOUS - (3013) - 10/1/76 - (Maas) - Double white and red, variable. Plain variegated foliage. Standard.
 MAGIC GLOW - (Lyon) - Lightly ruffled double pink above deep green tailored foliage. Standard.
 *MAGIC SPLENDOR - (2886) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Semidouble wisteria blue with a white edge. Plain foliage. Standard.
 *MARYLAND - (3156) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single to double medium blue star. Quilted foliage. Standard.
 MARASCHINO - (Swift's AV) - Vivid rose double. Light green tailored foliage. Standard.
 MARIE - (See Swanee Marie)
 *MARK - (3007) - 9/20/76 - (Max Maas) - Double fringed deep red. Quilted ruffled foliage. Standard.
 MARK'S STAR - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single purple and white star. Standard.
 MARTA - (See Ballet Marta)
 *MARY ANN PRITCHET - (3064) - 11/23/76 - (Mrs. J. S. Barnhill) - Medium pink semidouble. Dark plain foliage. Large.
 MASTERPIECE - (See Vern's Masterpiece)
 MAYPOLE - (Swift's AV) - Deep pink semidouble to double slightly frilly blossom, white edge. Standard.
 MELANCHOLY - (Swift's AV) - Double white with a lavender eye. Slightly frilled. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
 MELODY - (See The Parson's Melody)
 META - (See Ballet Meta)
 MICHAEL ANDREW - (E. Fisher) - Double two tone fuchsia pink, tinged chartreuse. Dark plain foliage. Standard.

MIDGET RINGER - (Champion) - Bright pink single, usually bell shaped. Pointed pink leaves. Miniature.
 *MIDNIGHT KISS - (3093) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Double orchid with purple tips. Plain, ruffled, pointed foliage. Large.
 *MIDNIGHT MADNESS - (3104) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double fringed purple. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
 *MIGHTY MINI - (3023) - 11/3/77 - (Dorothy Adams) - Semidouble powder blue star. Quilted pointed foliage. Large.
 *MILLIE BLAIR - (3020) - 10/26/76 - (Granger G) - Double fringed light blue with a white edge. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
 *MIMI - (3079) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double white. Plain foliage. Large.
 MINI FANTASY - (Tinari) - Double fantasy of purple, pink and lavender. Miniature.
 MINT FLOSS - (See Shomee Mint Floss)
 MINT ROSE - (See Shomee Mint Rose)
 *MISS CHARM - (3035) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double vibrant pink star. Quilted, pointed foliage.
 MISTY TRINKET - (Champion) - Light pink double. Foliage variegated on edges. Semiminiature.
 MONACO - (See Granger's Monaco)
 MONIQUE - (See Utz Monique)
 *MONTEREY SUNSET - (3139) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double maroon. Plain foliage. Standard.
 MOONBEAM - (See Vern's Moonbeam)
 MS PRETTY - (Carol Green Anderson) - Semidouble fringed white with pink edges. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
 MS PRETTY PINK - (Carol Green Anderson) - Semidouble fringed pink. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
 MY HAPPINESS - (Lyon) - Deep rose pink double. Tommie Lou variegated foliage. Standard.
 MY LOVE - (C & R Reed) - Pink fringed double. Dark green tailored foliage. Standard.
 MYSTIC - (Tinari) - Semidouble lavender two tone. Variegated foliage. Standard.
 MYSTICAL BLUE - (Lyon) - Semidouble wisteria blue. Forrest green foliage. Standard.

N

*NEW DAWN - (3142) - 5/27/77 - (D. Buttram) - Double light pink. Plain foliage. Standard.
 *NEW JERSEY - (3157) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single fringed pink on quilted foliage. Standard.
 *NEW YEAR'S DAY - (3011) - 9/30/76 - (D. R. Maness) - Fringed double white with light pink shading. Quilted pointed foliage. Semiminiature.
 *NEW YORK - (3158) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single dark violet-blue. Quilted foliage. Standard.
 NONA - (See Swanee Nona)

O

ONE-FOURTEEN - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single blue and white two tone. Standard.
 ORCHID FLAIR - Double pale orchid two tone. Dark foliage. Standard.
 ORCHID RED LINE - (Granger G) - Red Bloom. Dark green foliage.

P

PANSY TRAIL - (E. Fisher) - Single violet trailer. Medium green plain foliage. Standard.

*PARAGON - (3091) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Double fringed light pink, dark pink edges. Plain ruffled foliage. Standard.
 *PARMA ZIP - (3090) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Double dark blue, occasionally has pink streaks. Plain ruffled pointed foliage. Large.
 PARTY PINK - (See Swanee Party Pink)
 PATRICIA DAWN - (Wood's AV) - Filled double blue with a white edge. Dark green foliage. Standard.
 PATRICIA VALERIE - (E. Fisher) - Semidouble marine blue stars with a white edge. Girl foliage. Standard.
 PEACE - (See The Parson's Peace)
 *PEACH LACE - (3105) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double peach with a green edge. Quilted foliage. Standard.
 *PENNSYLVANIA - (3159) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single to semidouble purple red star. Quilted foliage. Standard.
 PICK-A-DILLY - (C & R Reed) - Double fringed blue. Variegated foliage. Standard.
 PINAFORE - (See Tennessee Pinafore)
 *PINK DYNAMO - (3106) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double pink two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.
 PINK FASHION - (See Granger's Pink Fashion)
 *PINK LEMONADE - (2879) - 8/17/76 - (Gene Thiel) - Single pink two tone. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Large.
 PINK MEASURE - (See Castle's Pink Measure.)
 *PINK MINK - (2880) - 8/17/76 - (Gene Thiel) - Double pink. Plain quilted pointed foliage. Large.
 PINK MIST - (See Tennessee Pink Mist)
 PINK MONARCH - (Granger G) - Deep pink double on medium green tailored foliage. Standard.
 PINK MOUNTAIN - (Tinari) - Double pink, deep coral center. Tapered leaf. Standard.
 PINK NIMBUS - (See Granger's Pink Nimbus)
 PINK N' INK - (Lyon) - Deep rose-pink semidouble peppered with purple ink. Standard.
 PINK ROSY Double pink with a white edge. Medium green foliage. Standard.
 PINK SPARKLER - Medium pink double bloom. Plain foliage. Standard.
 PINK SPLENDOR - (Granger G) - Double deep pink with a white edge. Standard.
 PINK STAR - (See Tennessee Pink Star)
 *PINK WAVES - (3036) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double medium rose pink star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.
 PIXIE WHITE - (Joanne Steffen) - Single white semiminiature. Semitrailer.
 *PIZZAZZ - (2881) - 8/17/76 - (Gene Thiel) - Single light pink may have darker edge. Plain quilted foliage. Standard.
 PLATINUM BLUE - (Swift's AV) - Pale blue double. Tailored dark foliage. Standard.
 PLATINUM LAVENDER - (Swift's AV) - Light lavender double. Tailored, quilted foliage. Standard.
 PLATINUM PINK - (Swift's AV) - Pink semidouble. Dark tailored quilted foliage. Standard.
 PLEASURE - (See The Parson's Pleasure)
 *PLUM CREST - (3037) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double plum. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.
 *PLUM MARMALADE - (3088) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Double plum darker shadings on edge, occasionally has pink streaks. Plain ruffled pointed foliage. Large.
 PLUM SWEET - (Lyon) - Fancy red edged white semidouble stars. Deep green semiholly foliage. Standard.

POLLY PUT ON - (C & R Reed) - Double fuchsia with purple fantasy markings. Red backed round leaves. Standard.

PRAYERS - (See The Parson's Prayers)

PRIDE - (See Gene's Pride)

PUFFY PINKY - (Swift's AV) - Double pink. Tailored dark foliage. Standard.

PURPLE COW - (J. S. Miller) - Semidouble fringed medium orchid. Miniature.

PURPLE CREST - Single white with purple edging. Light green foliage. Standard.

PURPLE MARTIN - Dark blue semidouble. Plain dark green foliage. Standard.

PURPLE'S-A-POPPIN - (Ronn Nadeau) - Double blue. Girl foliage. Standard.

PURPLE SPOT - (Lyon) - Royal purple stars with white tips. Standard.

PURPLE STARCREST - (Ronn Nadeau) - Semidouble white star with a heavy purple edge. Standard.

R

*RADIANT - (3038) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double red fuchsia star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*RALPH REED - (3146) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble lavender with a slight geneva edge. Ruffled pointed foliage. Large.

RASPBERRY N CREAM - (See Swanee Raspberry N Cream)

RASPBERRY STAR - (Maas) - Semidouble fuchsia star two tone. Slightly tapered foliage. Standard.

REDBIRDS - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single red star. Standard.

RED FLAME - (See Granger's Red Flame)

RED GOLD - (See Granger's Red Gold)

RED KNAVE - (See Granger's Red Knave)

RED MUSETTA - (Granger G) - Semidouble deep red bloom. Variegated foliage.

RED SAFARI - (Lyon) - Double mauve with variegated foliage. Standard.

RED SPOT - (Lyon) - White tipped fuchsia stars. Dark round foliage. Standard.

RED STAR - (Maas) - Semidouble red fuchsia star. Medium green foliage. Standard.

RED STONE - (See Castle's Red Stone)

RED TAPE - (Swift's AV) - Double red two tone slightly frilled bloom. Almost tailored scalloped quilted foliage. Standard.

RED VELVET - (See Vern's Red Velvet)

REGALAIRE - (See Granger's Regalaire)

RHAPSODIE DENISE - (Holtkamp) - Single white with wine center. Medium green foliage. Standard.

RHAPSODIE RUBY - (Holtkamp) - Double dark wine on dark green foliage. Standard.

RHINESTONE SPARKLE - (Swift's AV) - Full white double. Tailored quilted foliage. Standard.

*RING TWICE - (3107) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Single light red two tone star. Plain foliage. Standard.

RIO GRANDE - (Swift's AV) - Dark lavender double with some purple tips. Pointed, slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

ROBERTA - (Granger G) - Fluted lavender. Ornamental foliage. Standard.

ROBERT JOHN - (E. Fisher) - Single fuchsia star with a white edge. Plain foliage. Standard.

ROE ANN - (R. H. Roe) - Dark green heart shaped foliage. Single purple. Large.

ROSALYN CARTER - (Ronn Nadeau) - Single white star with a thick lavender edge.

ROSE EMBER - (Granger G) - Semidouble pink-orchid two tone. Tailored foliage.

*ROSE PARADE - (3039) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double rose pink star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

ROSY WINGS - (Swift's AV) - Pink semidouble two tone. Slightly ruffled foliage. Standard.

ROYAL COACH - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble wine purple. Dark tailored quilted foliage. Large.

*ROYAL DREAM - (3068) - 12/2/76 - (W. G. Hartley) - Double fringed purple with faint white edge. Ruffled foliage. Standard.

RUBY - (See Rhapsodie Ruby)

RUBY RED - Bright single and semidouble wine red bloom. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

RUFF PLUM - (Swift's AV) - Double ruffled purple. Dark ruffled foliage. Standard.

RUSTIC CHARM - (See Castle's Rustic Charm)

S

*SAILOR'S DREAM - (3108) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double light blue. Ruffled and pointed foliage. Large.

SAINT LOUISE BLUES - (Swift's AV) - Light blue double. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.

*SAINT MARYS - (3012) - 9/30/76 - (D. R. Maness) - Single fringed white star with a lavender edge. Ruffled variegated foliage. Standard.

*SANDRA - (3080) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double light pink with a darker edge then white and then a green edge. Plain foliage. Large.

SAPPHIRE TRINKET - (Champion) - Deep blue double. Tannish foliage. Semiminiature.

*SARA LYNNE - (3081) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double red with a white edge. Plain foliage. Large.

*SARITA - (3135) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double pink on plain, quilted foliage. Semiminiature.

SASHAY - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble medium purple frilled star. Slightly quilted foliage. Standard.

SASSY LASS - Red and white single. Standard.

*SEA BREEZE - (3008) - 9/20/76 - (Maas) - Double purple and white. (Variable). May be all purple. Quilted foliage. Large.

*SHAYNA - (3109) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double fringed purple. Ruffled foliage. Standard.

*SHEER BEAUTY - (3092) - 2/1/77 - (Mrs. C. S. Hawley) - Double fringed light pink with a green edge. Quilted ruffled foliage. Large.

SHERIE LEIGH - (Wood's AV) - Semidouble pink with a wavy green edge. Dark wavy foliage. Medium size plant.

*SHIRLEE'S LAVENDER CREAM - (2862) - 6/3/76 - (Mrs. D. E. Sands) - Double pale lavender two tone. Variegated foliage. Standard.

*SHOMEE CHERRY MINT - (3059) - 11/17/76 - (Tomara AV) - Double fringed deep reddish pink two tone. Ruffled, variegated, pointed foliage. Standard.

*SHOMEE MINT ROSE - (3060) - 11/17/76 - (Tomara AV) - Double fringed white, blush pink center. Ruffled, variegated, pointed foliage. Standard.

*SHOMEE THISTLEDOWN - (3061) - 11/17/76 - (Tomara AV) - Double fringed white star, lavender throughtout bloom. Plain foliage. Standard.

SHOW ME - (Swift's AV) - Pale lavender semidouble. Tailored soft foliage. Standard.

*SIR HILL - (3087) - 2/1/77 - (Arthur F. Hill) - Single purple, with lavender variations. Quilted ruffled spooned foliage. Large.

SI SI TOO - (Swift's AV) - White semidouble star. Quilted tailored foliage. Standard.

- SISSY ONE - (Swift's AV) - White semidouble star. Light green tailored foliage. Standard.
- *SISTER ANCILLA - (3117) - 4/1/77 - (Lanigan) - Single pink two tone. Plain foliage. Standard.
- SISTER SUZIE - (Double fringed white on fluted wavy foliage. Standard.
- *SITTING PRETTY - (Lyon) - Full double fuchsia bloom. Dark tailored foliage. Standard.
- SIX PACK - (Dr. J. B. Jung) - Pink rose shaped bloom. Chanticleer foliage. Standard.
- SKY TRAIL - (E. Fisher) - Blue trailer with white edge. Medium green plain foliage. Standard.
- SMILE - (Fischer GH) - Double red. Compact dark green foliage. Standard.
- SNO BERRY - (Lyon) - Double red star with white edges. Tailored foliage. Standard.
- SOMETHING MORE SPORT - (C & R Reed) - Pink and white double. Light green foliage. Standard.
- *SOMETHING NEW - (3040) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white some have a blue center. Plain, quilted, foliage. Standard.
- SONG - (See The Parson's Song)
- SOURIS - (E. Fisher) - Single and semidouble white, lavender tinged edges. Round quilted foliage. Standard.
- *SOUTHLAND JUNGLE - (3147) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble lavender two tone. Ruffled foliage. Large.
- SOUTHLAND STRIPES - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble white with lavender edges. Tailored foliage. Standard.
- *SPANGLES - (3041) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Pink star. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.
- SPARKY - (Lyon) - Deep purple streaked with white. Dark foliage. Semiminiature.
- SPELLBOUND - (Swift's AV) - Double lavender with some purple tips. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
- SPRING FASHION - (C & R Reed) - Dark pink double. Red backed strawberry foliage. Standard.
- *SPRY - (3042) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double violet blue. Quilted, ruffled ovate foliage. Standard.
- STACY - (J. S. Miller) - Purple two tone star. Quilted foliage. Miniature.
- STARBURST - (See Granger's Starburst)
- STARS-A-PLenty - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble lavender rose star. Tailored quilted foliage. Standard.
- STAR'S EDGE - (Ronn Nadeau) - White single star with a lavender edge. Standard.
- STARS-OF-BLUE - (Swift's AV) - Medium blue semidouble star. Tailored foliage. Standard.
- STAR TWIST - (Swift's AV) - Double fringed white with lavender traces. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
- STEPPING OUT - (Lyon) - Double pink with forrest green foliage. Standard.
- *STORM WARNING - (3114) - 2/26/77 - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - Single deep royal blue star with a white edge. Plain, quilted and pointed foliage. Standard.
- SUAVE - (Swift's AV) - Lavender double darker bands on some petals. Light green ruffled foliage. Standard.
- SUGAR BLUES - (See Fredette's Sugar Blues)
- SUMMER SKIES - (See Vern's Summer Skies)
- SUNSHINE - (See The Parson's Sunshine)
- *SURPRISE - (3043) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double blue and white star. Plain, ovate foliage. Standard.
- SUZY'S ORCHID RIPPLE SUPREME - (Mrs. H. S. Johnson) - Double white with orchid edge. Supreme foliage. Standard.
- SWANEE DANNY BOY - (Elmer Swanson) - Variegated Tommie Lou type foliage. Single medium blue bloom. Standard.
- *SWANEE FLAMINGO - (3065) - 11/26/76 - (E. Swanson) - Single pink two tone. Quilted pointed foliage. Standard.
- SWANEE MARIE - (Elmer Swanson) - Double dark blue. Medium green foliage. Standard.
- SWANEE NONA - (Elmer Swanson) - Double red bloom. Medium green foliage. Standard.
- *SWANEE PARTY PINK - (3066) - 11/26/76 - (E. Swanson) - Double fringed pink with white and green edge. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.
- SWANEE RASPBERRY N CREAM - (Elmer Swanson) - Double violet red bloom with pink streaks. Standard.
- *SWEET HONESTY - (2887) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Double rosy pink star. Ruffled variegated foliage. Standard.
- SWEET VIOLET - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble pale lavender star. Tailored foliage. Standard.
- *SWINGIN PINK - (3110) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double dark pink. Plain foliage. Standard.
- SWISS LAD - (C & R Reed) - Semidouble purple fringed star. Wavy red backed foliage. Standard.
- SYLVAN BLUE - (See Granger's Sylvan Blue)

T

- *TENNESSEE APPLE BLOSSOM - (3015) - 10/20/76 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single apple blossom pink star. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *TENNESSEE BLUE MOON - (3016) - 10/20/76 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single dark blue star. Plain, foliage. Standard.
- *TENNESSEE PINAFORE - (3017) - 10/20/76 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single fringed white with blue and a green edge. Ruffled foliage. Standard.
- *TENNESSEE PINK MIST - (3018) - 10/20/76 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single creamy pink star with deeper pink eye. Plain foliage. Large.
- *TENNESSEE PINK STAR - (3019) - 10/20/76 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single deep pink star. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *TENNESSEE WALTZ - (3118) - 4/8/77 - (Mrs. T. C. Fritz) - Single ruffled dark blue star with a white edge. Plain quilted foliage. Standard.
- *TERESA - (3131) - 5/20/77 - (G. R. Beck) - Single and double white with rose-pink markings. Plain foliage. Standard.
- *TEXAS CHARMER - (3082) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Semidouble lavender two tone, dark purple edge then a white edge. Plain foliage. Large.
- *TEXAS WILDFIRE - (3083) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double red with a white edge. Plain foliage. Large.
- THE PARSON'S COURAGE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Single white and red mottled bloom. Variegated foliage. Standard.
- THE PARSON'S HONOR - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Single white ruffled star brushed with blue. Variegated foliage.
- THE PARSON'S LACE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Violet double with a darker edge. Variegated ruffled foliage. Standard.
- THE PARSON'S MELODY - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Medium double pink bloom. Flat variegated foliage. Standard.
- THE PARSON'S PEACE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Frilly white single with orchid edges. Variegated foliage. Standard.
- THE PARSON'S PLEASURE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Slightly frilled white single, white edges. Variegated foliage.

THE PARSON'S PRAYERS - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Two tone orchid double. Variegated foliage. Standard.

THE PARSON'S SONG - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Double deep blue edged in white. Deep green variegated foliage. Standard.

THE PARSON'S SUNSHINE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Frilly orchid double. Ruffled variegated foliage. Standard.

THE PARSON'S TRIBUTE - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - White semidouble with orchid edges. Variegated foliage. Standard.

THE PARSON'S TRIUMPH - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - Orchid and violet double. Ruffled variegated foliage. Standard.

THE PARSON'S VICTORY - (Rev. C. W. Blades) - White semidouble star with a blue edge. Variegated foliage. Standard.

THE QUEEN - (Maas) - Double pink blooms. Standard.

THISTLEDOWN - (See Shomee Thistledown)

THUNDERCLOUD - (Mrs. P. W. Kiesling) - White, deep orchid and purple double. Plain, quilted foliage. Standard.

TICKLED PINK - (Lyon) - Slightly waved double rose pink. Dark pink backed foliage. Standard.

TIFFANY - (See Utz Tiffany)

TIME FOR PINK - (Ronn Nadeau) - Semidouble pink star. Standard.

TIMELESS - (Lyon) - Crinkly white edged fuchsia double stars. Tailored foliage. Standard.

*TINY TOT - (2888) - 8/23/76 - (Lyon) - Double white star with a bit of pink. Plain foliage. Miniature.

TINY TWILIGHT TIME - (Joanne Steffen) - Tiny perfect blue star. Small slightly serrated foliage. Miniature.

TIPPY CREST - (Ronn Nadeau) - Light purple and white semiminature. Violet shaped single.

*TOMMIE'S SON - (3111) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Double white, blue markings. Variegated foliage. Large.

TOP JOB - (Lyon) - Double light blue. Light green foliage. Standard.

TOP NOTCH - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble light lavender with dark almost fuchsia wide band. Tailored foliage. Standard.

TOUCH OF LILAC - (Swift's AV) - White with light lavender. Tailored foliage. Standard.

TOY CLOWN - (Lyon) - Double pink with purple specked flowers. Glossy miniature foliage.

TRAIL BREAKER - (Lyon) - Pink semidouble on bright green trailer.

TRIBUTE - (See The Parson's Tribute)

TRINA MARIE - (Wood's AV) - Double fuchsia. Medium green foliage. Standard.

TRINKET WHITE CAPS - (Champion) - Single white with light blue shading. Pointed foliage. Semiminature.

TRIUMPH - (See The Parson's Triumph)

*TRUFFLES - (3084) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double lavender, strong white edge. Plain foliage. Large.

*TWILIGHT ANGEL - (3112) - 2/25/77 - (Kolb's GH) - Semidouble purple star with a white edge. Ruffled & pointed foliage. Large.

TWINKLE LITTLE STAR - (Joanne Steffen) - Single white star. Small slightly serrated foliage. Miniature.

U

ULLI - (See Ballet Ulli)

UNSPOKEN - (Lyon) - White and blue double stars. Moss green foliage. Standard.

*UTZ MONIQUE - (3086) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double deep pink, white edge. Plain foliage. Large.

*UTZ TIFFANY - (3085) - 12/30/76 - (Howard Utz) - Double bright pink, wide white edge. Plain quilted foliage. Large.

V

*VALENTINE - (3044) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double red fuchsia. Plain, quilted pointed foliage. Standard.

VARIEGATED GORGEOUS - (See Maas' Variegated Gorgeous)

*VELVET QUEEN - (3045) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double dark blue. Plain, quilted and pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S BLUE CHIPS - (3046) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double deep blue star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S BLUE HEAVEN - (3047) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double medium blue star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S FLASH - (3048) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double wisteria blue with a white edge. Plain, ovate, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S FRENCH LACE - (3049) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double blue and white. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S MASTERPIECE - (3050) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double rose pink. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S MOONBEAM - (3051) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Semidouble shell pink star. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S RED VELVET - (3052) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double deep red. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S SUMMER SKIES - (3053) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double corn flower blue star. Plain, quilted pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S TELSTAR - (3054) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double blue and white star. Plain, ovate, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S WHITE CHEER - (3055) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white. Plain, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S WHITE KNIGHT - (3056) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white star. Plain, quilted, pointed foliage. Standard.

*VERN'S ZODIE - (3057) - 11/8/76 - (V. Lorenzen) - Double white splashed with red. Plain, quilted pointed foliage. Miniature.

VICTORY - (See The Parson's Victory)

*VIOLET TINT - (3148) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Semidouble light lavender with purple tips and edges. Plain scalloped foliage. Large.

*VIRGINIA - (3160) - 6/2/77 - (R. Holtkamp) - Single fringed pink on quilted foliage. Standard.

W

*WAVECREST - (3137) - 5/27/77 - (E & L Hammond) - Double fringed blue with a white edge and shadings. Ruffled foliage. Standard.

WEE LADDIE - (Joanne Steffen) - Semidouble purple. Small serrated foliage. Miniature.

WEE LASS - (Lyon) - Red and white double flowers on semiholly miniature foliage.

WELCOME SPRING - (Swift's AV) - White with purple edges, ruffled double. Ruffled medium green foliage. Standard.

*WHISPER ROSE - (3149) - 5/27/77 - (Swift's AV) - Double fuchsia rose, Plain quilted foliage, Large.
 WHITE CHEER - (See Vern's White Cheer)
 WHITE DELIGHT - Double white with pale lavender-blue, Light foliage, Standard.
 WHITE DOVE - (E. Fisher) - Single pure white, Quilted foliage, Standard.
 WHITE GARDENIA - (Mrs. R. A. Brown) - Double white blossom, Medium green slightly quilted pointed foliage, Standard.
 WHITE KNIGHT - (See Vern's White Knight)
 WHITE POODLE - (Tinari) - Semidouble ivory white, Heart shaped foliage, Standard.
 WHITE REGENCY - Double white star, Light foliage, Standard.

WHITE REVERIE - White fringed semidouble.
 WHITE ROSE - (Wood's AV) - Double white, touch of pink, Medium green quilted foliage, Standard.
 WHITE SPRAY - (Tinari) - Double white full open bloom, Heart shaped quilted foliage, Standard.
 WHITE SWAN - Single white star, Dark tailored foliage, Standard.
 WILDFIRE - (See Granger's Wildfire)
 WINTER DREAM - (Lyon) - Semidouble white stars, often with a little pink, Tailored foliage, Standard.

XYZ

ZODIE - (See Vern's Zodie)

Bylaws of the African Violet Society of America, Inc.

Organized November 8, 1946

Incorporated June 30, 1947

Adopted At Regular Annual Meeting
 Philadelphia, Pa., May 13, 1950
 As Amended Milwaukee, Wis., April 18, 1970

ARTICLE I

Name and Object Section 1

NAME: This society shall be known as the African Violet Society of America.

Section 2

SEAL: The corporate seal of the society shall be kept at the business office of the society.

Section 3

NON-PROFIT: This society shall be and exist as a non-profit organization.

Section 4

OBJECT: The object of the society shall be to afford a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in the African violet (Saintpaulia); to stimulate a widespread interest in the propagation and culture of African violets; to promote ways and means for the distribution of all varieties and species among the members and others interested in growing them and to gather and publish reliable, practical information concerning this organization, the culture and propagation of the African violet, and other articles of interest to the members.

ARTICLE II

Membership and Dues Section 1

ELIGIBILITY: Any person interested in the growing of African violets shall be eligible to membership in this society.

Section 2

CLASSES: There shall be six (6) classes of membership in the society, namely:

- a. INDIVIDUAL: which shall be any one person.
- b. ASSOCIATE: which shall be any person living at the same address as a person having any other class of membership. An associate member shall not receive the society magazine or notices of meetings and bylaws amendments carried therein but shall have all other privileges of an individual member by paying half the dues required for individual membership.

- c. COMMERCIAL: which shall be all persons or firms who advertise consistently and/or sell one thousand (1,000) or more African violet plants or leaf cuttings annually or who manufacture or advertise for sale, fertilizer, disease and insect control materials, equipment, tools or any other merchandise pertaining to or applicable to growing African violets.
- d. SUSTAINING: which shall be those individuals or organizations interested in the objects of this Society and paying the Sustaining Membership fee.
- e. LIFE: which shall exempt such members from annual dues upon payment of the life membership fee.
- f. HONORARY LIFE: which shall be persons given a life membership by the society for outstanding services. They shall have all of the privileges of membership but shall be exempt from future payment of dues.

Section 3

AWARD MEMBERSHIPS: may be given by the Awards Committee with the approval of the executive committee provided not more than one (1) honorary life membership nor more than ten (10) yearly memberships may be awarded during any one (1) term.

Section 4

REVOKE: The Board of Directors may revoke any membership for just cause provided that refund shall be made to life members in the amount paid by them minus the accumulative sum for individual membership to date of revocation.

Section 5

DUES: The amount of dues for each membership shall be determined by vote of the Board of Directors provided that no increase shall exceed fifty percent (50%) of the amount paid in the current year, or be effective within twelve (12) months of any previous increase. Dues shall be payable in advance, to the treasurer of the society and shall cover the twelve (12) month period from the first day of March through the last day of February.

Section 6

MEMBERSHIP VOTE: Each paid to date membership shall entitle the holder to voice and vote in the business meetings of the society.

ARTICLE III

Affiliations and Charters Section 1

AFFILIATED CHAPTERS: Any group of persons interested in African violets may form a chapter and affiliate with the society upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and in return they shall receive copies of publications which may be sent to any member of their choice: the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place; AVSA Standard Show Award, and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award and other awards as may be determined by the Board of Directors in the future, and library service if desired.

Section 2

Groups of members and/or societies in one or more states or countries may affiliate as Councils, State Societies or Regional Group Societies upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and shall be entitled to receive the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place, AVSA Standard Show Award, and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award, library service, and the AVSA Sweepstakes Award.

Section 3

JUDGES COUNCILS: Groups of judges from one or more states, districts, or areas may affiliate as Judges Councils upon payment of the fee set for such affiliation and in return they shall be entitled to the AVSA Collection Award, first and second place; AVSA Standard Show Award and AVSA Standard Show Achievement Award, library service, and the AVSA Sweepstakes Award.

Section 4

CHARTERS: shall be issued to all affiliated groups upon registering the name of the group with the Affiliate Chairman. A president's card is available to those groups who supply the name and address of the group president.

Section 5

VOTING STATUS: Affiliated groups as such shall have no voice or vote in the society business meetings and no member of a group may use the group's affiliation for individual membership privileges.

Section 6

REVOKE: The Board of Directors may revoke any charter for just cause, but no individual member shall lose membership because of the loss of the group charter.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings and Quorum Section 1

ANNUAL MEETINGS: shall be held at the convention which shall be held at such time and place each year as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 2

SPECIAL MEETINGS: may be called by the Board of Directors or the president and two (2) other elected officers.

Section 3

QUORUM: at any of the society meetings shall be fifty (50) individual members each of whom must be able to produce a paid to date membership card.

Section 4

QUORUM: at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be ten (10) members of the Board.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Their Duties Section 1

ELECTIVE OFFICERS: The elected officers of this society shall be:

- a. **PRESIDENT:** who shall have general superintendency of the affairs of the society; preside at meetings of the society, Board of Directors, and executive committee; keep informed on all work of the society and make reports thereon as may be required; appoint committee chairmen; fill all vacancies in offices and committees during the term; countersign checks drawn on the treasury; be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating; and assume other duties necessary in the best interest of the society.
- b. **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president or when called upon; countersign checks when the president or treasurer cannot sign; and perform other duties as assigned.
- c. **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president and first vice president or when called upon; and perform other duties as assigned.
- d. **THIRD VICE PRESIDENT:** who shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president, first and second vice presidents or when called upon, and perform other duties as assigned.
- e. **SECRETARY:** who shall be responsible for keeping accurate records of the meetings of the society, Board of Directors, and executive committee; and assume other duties relative to the office or that may be assigned.
- f. **TREASURER:** who shall be responsible for the safe keeping of the society funds and payment of bills by checks signed by two (2) of the three officers recognized by the banks to sign checks; keep an accurate book record of all monies received and disbursed; render financial reports as the Board of Directors may require; and help prepare the annual budget in detail. He shall be bonded in an amount set by the Board of Directors and shall submit all records related to the treasury for audit annually by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the executive committee. The cost of both audit and bond shall be included in the budget and be paid by the society. The Certified Public Accountant's report shall be sent to the members of the Board in advance of each annual meeting.

Section 2

DIRECTORS: There shall be fifteen (15) directors elected from the membership-at-large, one (1) of which shall be a resident of the Dominion of Canada. They shall be elected to serve terms of three (3) years each, five (5) being elected each year.

Section 3

PARLIAMENTARIAN: A parliamentarian may be appointed by the president to serve at the annual meeting, or for the entire term, remuneration to be decided by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

Nominations and Elections Section 1

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible to hold office in this society a nominee must be a member in good standing and have served at least one (1) year as a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 2

TERMS OF OFFICE: The terms of officers shall be one (1) year or until their successors are elected and each term

shall begin at the conclusion of the annual convention at which they are elected excepting that of the directors, which shall be governed by Section 2, of Article V. No elected officer shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office excepting the treasurer whose terms may be unlimited and the directors who shall not succeed themselves.

Section 3

NOMINATIONS: shall be offered as follows:

- a. By a nominating committee.
- b. From the floor, the nominees being present.

Section 4

ELECTIONS: shall be by ballot excepting when there is only one (1) name in nomination for an office, in which case the secretary may cast the ballot or it may be dispensed with in favor of viva voce voting.

ARTICLE VII

Administration and Management Section 1

The Board of Directors shall consist of elected officers, the fifteen (15) directors, the immediate past president, and the chairmen of standing committees. This Board shall:

- a. Manage the society affairs between annual meetings.
- b. Have the same officers as those elected by the society.
- c. Meet regularly immediately before and after the annual convention of the society. Special meetings may be called by the president or upon request of the executive committee.
- d. Set the policies of the society and make their own standing rules provided they do not conflict with the bylaws of the society.
- e. Appoint an editor of publications, who shall be responsible for the preparation and issuance of all publications authorized by the Board of Directors.
- f. Submit the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors for publication in one of the first two African Violet Magazine issues following the convention.

Section 2

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: shall consist of the elected officers and they shall have the authority to conduct any necessary business of the society during the interim between meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section 3

EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL: An executive director may be selected and appointed by such procedure as deemed advisable by the Board of Directors. The salary of such person and any additional employees necessary for the management of the society shall be set by the Board of Directors who shall also have the power to remove any salaried employee. The authority to employ and the power to remove subordinate personnel may be delegated by the Board of Directors to the executive committee or executive director.

Section 4

INDEBTEDNESS: The officers, executive committee, Board of Directors, or anyone delegated by them shall not incur any debt or liability in the name of the society beyond the available or maturing funds in the treasury, excluding any monies or securities held for specific purposes.

Section 5

INVESTMENTS: All monies received for life membership dues shall be invested by the treasurer as directed by the Board of Directors. The interest in part accruing therefrom shall be used to provide for subscriptions each year at the rate of one-half the regular subscription price, for each Life member and for each Honorary Life member.

Section 6

BONDS: All society officers, committee chairmen, members and employees handling society funds, shall be bonded in a blanket bond, the cost of same to be paid by the society.

ARTICLE VIII Committees Section 1

STANDING COMMITTEES: shall not exceed fifteen (15) in number including Affiliate, Awards, Boyce Edens Research Fund, Commercial Activities, Commercial Sales and Exhibits, Convention Program, Convention Time and Place, Finance, Library, Membership and Promotion, Nominating, Plant Registration, Publications, Research, Shows and Judges. These committees shall perform duties as specified in the bylaws, standing rules, and as ordered by the Board of Directors.

- a. **THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:** shall prepare a budget in detail for guidance during the ensuing year. A sum shall be included in the budget to cover reasonable traveling expenses of officers and committee chairmen while engaged in travel on essential business of the society when authorized by the President. To be effective the budget must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. **BOYCE EDENS RESEARCH FUND COMMITTEE:** shall collect the Boyce Edens Research Fund contributions and remit same to the treasurer, who shall maintain this fund in a separate account to be used for research funds.
- c. **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** shall consist of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors. Three (3) members of this committee shall serve terms of three (3) years each, one (1) being appointed each year and the remaining two (2) shall be past presidents of the society who may serve an unlimited number of years but the appointment of which shall be annually. This committee shall select one (1) nominee (from a list of those having served at least one (1) year on the Board of Directors) for each office to be filled; and the names selected shall be submitted to the president (after confirming that they will serve if elected) in ample time to notify the membership by mail or through the magazine at least thirty (30) days in advance of the annual convention date.

Section 2

SPECIAL COMMITTEES: may be appointed by the president during the term, with the approval of the executive committee, which may be obtained by mail.

ARTICLE IX Parliamentary Authority Section 1

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER REVISED shall be the parliamentary authority on all questions not covered in these bylaws.

ARTICLE X Section 1

AMEND: These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of this society provided: the amendments have been sent to each member of the society except associate members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date; and they have been approved by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 2

REVISED: These bylaws may be revised in the same manner as amended excepting that a revision must be ordered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors or by the assembly at a regular convention meeting of the society.





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